

THE
Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XX.—NEW SERIES, No. 744.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1860.

PRICE UNSTAMPED .. 5d.
STAMPED 6d.

JOHN B. GOUGH will DELIVER an ORATION in EXETER HALL on THURSDAY EVENING, February 9th. Doors open at 7; Chair taken at 8. Tickets for Reserved and Numbered Stalls, 2s. 6d.; Central Seats or Platform, 1s.; Body of the Hall, 6d. To be had at the Offices of the National Temperance League, 337, Strand.

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, ISLINGTON.
The Rev. JOHN CAIRNS, D.D., of Berwick-on-Tweed, will CONDUCT the SERVICES in MYDDLETON HALL, UPPER-STREET, on FEBRUARY 5, 12, and 19, Morning and Evening.
The Rev. Dr. CAIRNS will also deliver a LECTURE on the Evening of FRIDAY, 17th inst. Subject:—"Effects of Rationalism and Superstition on Pure Christianity."

NEW CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL, CHURCH-ROAD, LOWER-ROAD, ISLINGTON.

A large School-room in this locality has been fitted up for a temporary Place of Worship, and was opened for Divine Service on the 3rd July, 1858. A Congregation has been gathered, and a Church formed, to which many additions have been made, so that there are now eighty members on the Church books. A Sunday-school has been in active operation since the 21st of August, 1858.

The new Chapel is intended to provide accommodation for about 900 adults, and suitable seats for the children of the Sunday-schools. The Schools proposed are to be sufficiently large to instruct 500 children. The estimated cost of the buildings, exclusive of the land, is about £3,500.

This effort is cordially recommended by most of the Ministers and Deacons of the neighbouring Churches. The following donations have been either given or promised:—

£ s. d.	£ s. d.
G. H. Parker, Esq. 100 0 0	Henry Spicer, Esq. 5 0 0
A Friend 50 0 0	Miss H. 5 0 0
John Taylor, Esq. 25 0 0	Mrs. L. 5 0 0
J. R. Mills, Esq. 20 0 0	Mrs. Bentall 5 0 0
Joshua Wilson, Esq. 20 0 0	Ald. Salomons, M.P. 5 0 0
Profits by bazaars 27 0 0	Sir H. J. Leake, M.P. 5 0 0
Sir S. M. Peto, M.P. 10 10 0	A. C. Tyndall, Esq. 5 0 0
Harriet N. Booth, Esq. 10 10 0	J. Teulon, Esq. 5 0 0
H. E. Gurney, Esq. 10 10 0	Rev. E. T. Prust 5 0 0
Profits by Lectures 7 0 0	H. Collier, Esq. 5 0 0
T. G. Williams, jun. Esq. 5 5 0	Henry Smith, Esq. 5 0 0
S. Luff, Esq. 5 0 0	J. K. jun. 5 0 0
J. A. Deering, Esq. 5 0 0	By Collecting Books and Donations under £5. 52 5 0

This appeal is now earnestly made to the strong to help the weak in the hope that assistance will be freely given to erect Schools and a substantial place of worship in a dense and rapidly increasing population.

Donations will be thankfully received by the Pastor, the Rev. Dr. HEWLETT, 2, Tredegar-square, E., and by JONATHAN TAYLOR, Esq., 70, Fenchurch-street, E.C., and J. A. DEERING, Esq., 12, Penton-street, N., Treasurers.

ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL, HAVERSTOCK-HILL.
Patron—The QUEEN.

For Children of both Sexes, of all Denominations, and from every part of the Kingdom.

TWENTY-FIVE ORPHAN CHILDREN will be admitted in April. Forms to fill up, and all particulars, can be obtained of the Secretary. Applications cannot be received later than the 1st March. The Committee are about to enlarge the School for 160 additional Children. Contributions in aid of the Extension and for the General Objects of the Charity, will be thankfully received.

JOSEPH SOUL, Secretary.
Office: 32, Ludgate-hill, London, E.C.

VOLUNTARY and RELIGIOUS EDUCATION.

The COMMITTEE of the VOLUNTARY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION earnestly appeal to the Friends of Free Religious Education on behalf of that Society.

The object of the Association is to render Assistance in Establishing and Sustaining Day-Schools, conducted on the Voluntary Principle, in which an unsectarian and religious education is imparted to the children.

The following extracts from the correspondence of the Committee will show the character of the cases assisted, and the need there is for help being given:—

"The last grant made to the school preserved it from being closed, and encouraged the people to support it as they had never done before."

"The grant is sufficiently large to relieve me of all fears for the school, and not so large as to render unnecessary the most strenuous efforts of our friends here."

"The school here has been established five years, and during that period has been supported entirely by the children's pence and subscriptions of friends. These have hitherto been found adequate, though most strenuous efforts have been necessary. We find, however, that this year there will be a considerable deficit. This is a consequence of the persevering, and, I fear, in some cases, unscrupulous efforts, of the friends of the national school, which is supported largely by Government grants. Every means have been tried to ruin our school—bribes, threats, Church influence, landlord influence, &c. We are doing our utmost, and now confidently appeal to you to help us. We hope that you will not allow us to be crushed without an effort to save us."

The following sums have already been received:

£ s. d.	£ s. d.
G. W. Alexander, Esq. 100 0 0	W. Edwards, Esq. 21 0 0
S. Morley, Esq. 100 0 0	J. Barrett, Esq. 5 0 0
J. Sturge, Esq. 50 0 0	R. S. Ashton, Esq. 50 0 0
C. Sturge, Esq. 10 0 0	R. Fox, Esq. 5 0 0
H. R. Ellington, Esq. 10 0 0	Rev. Joseph Fox 10 0 0
C. E. Madie, Esq. 52 10 0	H. Kelall, Esq. 5 0 0
	T. Duxton, Esq. 20 0 0

SUBSCRIPTIONS and DONATIONS of any amount will be thankfully received by the Treasurer, G. W. Alexander, Esq., 49, Lombard-street, E.C.; or by the Rev. H. Richard and Jos. Barrett, Esq., the Honorary Secretaries, at the Office of the Society, 7, Blomfield-street, Finsbury, E.C.

GREAT PRIZE DRAWING of ONE THOUSAND POUNDS in Prizes of £300, £200, £100, £100, £50, £50, £50, £50, £50, £50, for the IMPROVEMENT of BARRINGTONS' HOSPITAL, LIMERICK.

TRUSTEES.
Alderman William Fitzgerald, Mayor of Limerick.
Edward Murphy, Esq., High Sheriff of Limerick.
TREASURER.
The Provincial Bank.
HONORARY SECRETARY.
Dr. Gore, J.P., 79, George-street, Surgeon to the Hospital.
The Trustees have lodged in Bank £1,000 to the credit of the Fund, and for the Prizes.

The Drawing will be conducted on the Art Union Principle, under the exclusive charge of the Trustees, in presence of the Hospital Committee and Ticket-holders, at the Athenaeum, Limerick. Tickets limited to 2,400.

Application to be made to Alderman W. Fitzgerald, Mayor of Limerick, 116, George-street, as soon as possible, as the sale of tickets exceeds 100 daily, enclosing £1 or post-office order, and a stamped envelope, with the name and address of the applicant clearly written thereon.

Immediately after the drawing, the Trustees will transmit to the successful ticket-holders the amounts respectively drawn. If the tickets are all sold in time, the drawing will take place on the 14th of February.

W. R. GORE, M.D., and J.P., Hon. Sec.
Limerick, Jan., 1860.

WANTED, a PASTORATE.—The ADVERTISER is a member of an Independent church, and for many years has preached the Gospel of God's grace. He seeks a settled charge, and an opening sphere of usefulness. He desires needful support, but more especially a humble united people. A country place preferred. Testimonials when needed.
Address, by letter, A. Z., 18, Garden-street, City-road, N.

WANTED, a YOUNG LADY well Educated and Respectably Connected, as APPRENTICE to the DRAPEY and MILLINERY.
For particulars, apply to Mr. W. H. Aldred, Halseworth.

WANTED, by a YOUNG LADY, who has had some experience in business, a SITUATION as JUNIOR HAND in a light DRAPERY or FANCY ESTABLISHMENT. A small salary only required.
Address, C. E., Mrs. Green's, Haymarket, Leicester.

THE FRIENDS of a respectable YOUNG PERSON, age 18, wish to OBTAIN for her a SITUATION to take charge of one or two children.
Address, Mrs. P., Post-office, Brentford, W.

WANTED, a YOUNG MAN of Business Habits and Strict Integrity. None other need apply. A Dissenter preferred.
Apply to Mr. John Sharman, Draper, Leighton Buzzard.

WANTED, a SITUATION for a YOUTH, Fifteen-and-a-half years of age. He has received a good English Education, and is willing to learn a Business, or enter an Office. Also a YOUNG WOMAN, Seventeen years of age, is desirous of meeting with an engagement. Both can be well recommended.
Address, stating terms, &c., Thomas Flagelle, Post-office, Sheering, Essex.

TO TEA-DEALERS.—WANTED, an ASSISTANT to the above BUSINESS. Unexceptionable references.
Apply personally, or by letter, to Mr. Wm. Taylor, jun., Tea-dealer, Carlton-street, Nottingham.

W. RICHARDSON, Ironmonger, Brentwood, is in WANT of a respectable pious YOUTH, as an APPRENTICE. His establishment is one that combines the comforts of home with an opportunity of acquiring a good knowledge of the trade. Workmen are kept. A premium will be required.
He is also in WANT of an active ASSISTANT. A member of a Christian church, and not less than twenty-five years of age.

A GENERAL SERVANT is WANTED, in a small FAMILY, where there are no children. She must have an unexceptionable character, be a good cook, and an early riser. Wages liberal, but no beer allowed.
Address, E. A. A., 4, Canterbury-road, Thornton-heath, S.

COALS.—Best Sunderland, 25s.; Newcastle or Hartlepool, 24s.; best Silkestone, 24s.; Clay Cross, 22s.; Coke, per chaldron, 16s.
E. HIBBERDINE, Sussex and Union-wharfs, Regent's-park. Chief Offices: 169 and 265, Tottenham-court-road.

COALS.—Best Coals only. COCKERELL and Co.'s price is now 26s. per ton net for the BEST SCREENED COALS, and 14s. per chaldron net for the BEST COKE, as supplied by them to her Majesty.—13, Cornhill, E.C.; Purfleet-wharf, Earl-street, Blackfriars, E.C.; Eaton-wharf, Belgrave-place, Philico, S.W.; and Sunderland-wharf, Peckham, S.E.

COALS.—By Screw and Railway.—HIGH-BURY and KINGSLAND COAL DEPOTS.—LEA and COMPANY'S HETTON & LAMTON'S WALLSEND, the best House Coals, 25s. per ton, direct from the Collieries by screw-steamers; Hartlepool, 24s.; best small, 12s.; Silkestone, first class, 23s.; seconds, 22s.; best Clay Cross, 22s.; seconds, 20s.; Barnsley, 19s.; Hartley, 18s. per ton, net cash. Delivered screened, to any part of London.—All orders to be addressed to LEA and CO., Chief Offices, North London Railway Stations, Highbury, Islington, and Kingsland.

TO SCHOOLMASTERS or SCHOOLMISTRESSES.—To be LET, in the neighbourhood of Bedford-square, a SCHOOL-ROOM. Newly built, and very commodious for a week-day school. It will accommodate upwards of 100 children. Rent moderate.
For particulars, apply to Mr. H. Cooper, 20, Moor-street, Soho, E.C.

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Conducted by Mr. VERNEY.
Sound Education on moderate terms, in a healthy locality, eighteen miles from town.
Full Particulars promptly supplied.

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J. C. CANE, PRINCIPAL.
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For first-class MERCANTILE INSTRUCTION, there is now accommodation for an increased number of PUPILS.
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THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL, LENHAM, KENT, is situated in a healthy and pleasant locality, where a sound English and Commercial Education is imparted. Vigilant attention is paid to the formation of moral and religious habits, and the comforts of a home are fully realized.
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The course of Studies includes every department of an accomplished Education. Pupils are treated with parental kindness. Difficulties are explained till each Pupil thoroughly understands his studies. Self-reliance is cultivated, and emulation excited by suitable examinations and rewards.
In an experience extending over more than twenty years Mr. Hosken has educated the sons of ministers, lawyers, doctors, accountants, tradesmen, farmers, and others, from many of whom (unsolicited) he has received the highest testimonials.
Terms: Under Twelve years of age, Twenty-two Guineas; under Fourteen years of age, Twenty-four Guineas per annum. From the Rev. C. H. HOSKEN:—"Mr. Hosken is an educator to whom youthful minds may be safely entrusted."

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This Establishment offers a thorough education in English, French, German, Italian, Music, Painting, &c. The more advanced classes are conducted on the Collegiate System, and are exercised in Latin, Mathematics, Natural and Moral Science, and in the higher departments of Composition, in different Languages, and on various questions in Biblical and Modern Literature. The entire course of instruction is graduated and adapted to the diversified capabilities of the pupils. No efforts are spared to render their studies matters of attraction; and the object constantly kept in view, is the development and culture of their respective mental energies, and the formation of their characters on the basis of intelligent religious conviction, without reference to any sectarian peculiarity. The domestic arrangements are such as to secure the supervision and comfort of a Christian home. The mansion is most healthfully and pleasantly situated, and in a position to command all the advantages supplied by the Palace of Art.
Referees: The Parents of Pupils; Mrs. C. L. Balfour; the Rev. Drs. Redford, Burns, Thomas; and the leading Ministers of the Congregational and Baptist Denominations.

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THE BEST and CHEAPEST TEAS and COFFEES in ENGLAND are at all times to be OBTAINED of PHILLIPS and COMPANY, Tea Merchants, 8, KING WILLIAM-STREET, CITY, LONDON, E.C.
 Good strong Congou Tea . . . 2s. 6d., 2s. 8d., 2s. 10d., 3s., 3s. 2d., and 3s. 4d.
 Rich Souchong Tea . . . 3s. 6d., 3s. 8d., 3s. 10d., and 4s.
 Pure Coffee . . . 1s. 6d., 1s. 8d., 1s. 10d., 2s., 2s. 2d., and 2s. 4d.
 A Price Current Free. Sugars at Market Prices.

PHILLIPS and CO. send ALL GOODS CARRIAGE FREE, by their own Vans, within Eight Miles of No. 8, King William-street, City; and send Teas, Coffees, and Spices, Carriage Free to any Railway Station or Market Town in England, if to the value of 40s. or upwards.

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WEBSTER BROTHERS, TEA MERCHANTS, 39, MOORGATE-STREET, CITY, LONDON, are now supplying their Celebrated GOOD and PURE TEAS, Carriage Free to any Railway Station in England. By this liberal arrangement, Consumers and Purchasers of Teas, Coffees, and Spices, residing any Distance from the Metropolis, will be enabled to obtain Superior Articles to any hitherto sent direct from London.

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VERSUS COGNAC BRANDY.
 This celebrated old IRISH WHISKY rivals the finest French brandy. It is pure, mild, mellow, delicious, and very wholesome. Sold in bottles, 3s. 6d. each, at most of the respectable retail houses in London, by the appointed agents in the principal towns in England, or wholesale at 8, Great Windmill-street, Haymarket, W. Observe the red seal, pink label, and cork, branded "Kinahan's LL Whisky."

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ANDREW and HUGHES'S SOUTH AFRICAN WINES, viz. PORT, SHERRY, &c., 20s. per dozen; MADEIRA and AMONTILLADO, 24s. Two samples for twelve stamps.

"I find your wine pure and unadulterated."—Hy. Letheby, M.B., London Hospital.
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BURROWS and CO. are not disposed to comment upon the Purity of their Wines, which is daily most laudably acknowledged by the Public and eminent Medical Men of all Countries, as the increasing patronage of the highest Families in the Land is a sufficient guarantee.

They beg to call particular attention to their Pure TONIC WINES as being so valuable to Invalids and persons of weak stomachs.

A sample Case, containing Three full-sized Wine Bottles, will be forwarded to any address on receipt of Post-office Order for 6s. 6d., or a Dozen for 21s.

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A numerous list of Testimonials from the principal dressers, bleachers, dyers, and laundresses in the kingdom, may be had free on application. Sold by Grocers and Oilmen.

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GOOD BREAKFAST CONGOU, 3s. 2d.
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 Directions for bread-making gratis. Terms cash. A half-sack or upwards free to any railway station (200 miles).

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CONTENTS.

ECCLIASTICAL AFFAIRS:	Foreign and Colonial..... 87
The Lord Advocate's	Postscript..... 89
Annuity-tax Abolition	LEADING ARTICLES:
Bill..... 81	Summary..... 90
Special Meeting of the	The House of Commons 90
Liberation Society..... 81	Shall we have Thunder.. 91
The Church - Defence	The Pope's Encyclical
Movement..... 82	Letter..... 91
Church-rate Abolition	Parliamentary Proceed-
Bill..... 83	ings..... 92
Convocation and Church-	The Reform Question..... 95
rates..... 83	The Physical Education
Resignation of Canon	of the People..... 95
Wodehouse..... 83	University of London..... 95
Pastors' Retiring Fund.. 84	Court, Personal, and
RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE:	Official..... 95
The Special Services in	Miscellaneous News..... 96
the Theatres..... 85	Literature..... 96
CORRESPONDENCE:	Gleanings..... 97
The Clergy and the	Births, Marriages, and
"Saturday Review"..... 86	Deaths..... 97
Clerical Defenders of	Money Market and Com-
Slavery..... 86	mmercial Intelligence..... 97
General Education..... 86	Gazette..... 98
	Markets..... 98
	Advertisements..... 98

Ecclesiastical Affairs.

THE LORD ADVOCATE'S ANNUITY-TAX ABOLITION BILL.

Most of our readers are familiar with the instance of nursery *légèrdemain* which, for the purpose of illustration, we are going to describe. It is resorted to by parents, nurses, and elder brothers and sisters, with a view to excite a pleasant sense of wonder in the tender minds of little toddlers from two to seven years of age. It is, confessedly, a rather clumsy exercise of the art of mystification, and it is generally seen through, even by those who have scarcely emerged from the rank of babyhood, after a few repetitions. This little bit of sleight-of-hand is practised under cover of a rhyme which will, no doubt, resuscitate sleeping recollections of the infantine admiration awakened in most of us by the first exhibition of the trick. The rhyme is as follows:—

"Two little dicky birds sat upon a hill,
One named Jack, the other named Jill.
Fly away Jack! Fly away Jill!
Come again Jack! Come again Jill!"

We fear it may be necessary to inform the minds of our Scotch friends what the trick is. We are not certain whether amongst so grave, moral, and religious a people, nursery amusements are tolerated at all—and if they are, it is very conceivable that this particular device for mystifying children may be unknown. Well then, the operator sits upon a chair with a table before him, and an open-eyed, open-mouthed Goody Two Shoes, full of expectation, looking on. He sticks a small scrap of white paper on the forefinger of each hand, intended to represent to the active imagination of children, "two little dicky birds." He dances the two distinguished fingers on the surface of the table, repeating meanwhile the first two lines of the quatrain we have given above. When he comes to "Fly away Jack," he suddenly throws his right hand over his shoulder, and brings down upon the table the *second* finger which has no dicky bird on it, the forefinger being, of course, depressed and kept out of sight. "Fly away Jill" is the signal for doing the same with his left hand. The little one looks puzzled, for not a dicky bird is to be seen. The operator repeats the sudden movement of his right hand as he sings "Come again Jack," but, of course, brings down the illustrated forefinger on the table—then repeats the experiment with the left—and he goes over the process again and again, until the child is tired, or finds out the trick.

This is very much the way in which successive Governments delight in amusing the inhabitants of Edinburgh on the question of the Annuity-tax. They abolish it, and reimpose it, with wonderful confidence in the simplicity of the people of the modern Athens. And they do so, under cover of speeches see-sawing between the unpopularity and iniquity of the tax, and the desirableness of providing for it some decent substitute. It is as if they said to Edinburgh

"Shut your eyes, and upon your mouth, and see what we will send you," dandling, all the while, a ripe, rosy, luscious cherry before their expectant dupe, and, as soon as their exhortation is obeyed, popped into the already watering mouth a bolus of nasty medicinal stuff, and then excused themselves by the ready plea, "We mean it for your good." It is, certainly, a little irritating to be thus played with, the more so, as it presupposes the victim to be a "muff;" but the game may be played once too often, and it is just possible that the electors of Edinburgh, if they have acuteness enough to see through the trick, and spirit enough to resent it, may convince the Lord Advocate that there are two parties necessary to every successful resort of mystification—namely, a conjuror and a dupe—that they are not the latter, and that he is not the former.

"Fly away Jack!" the Annuity-tax is abolished, totally and immediately—a considerable improvement on Mr. Black's measure of last year, which continued it until vested interests should be satisfied. "Fly away Jill!" even pew-rents in city churches, which have been as high as the payers of them have been rare, are forthwith to cease. Young Edinburgh may well stare with sudden wonder. "Ah! Moncrieff is the man for us! Moncrieff, our right honourable member, knows the trick." Softly, young Edinburgh! Moncrieff has not yet done. "Come again Jack! What is this? not the Annuity-tax, surely! Oh, no! not the Annuity-tax, but a Town Council assessment, of from eightpence to tenpence in the pound, to be levied for fifteen years, along with, and in the same manner as, the police-rate, and to be extended over the entire area of the city, so as to include that moiety of it which is now exempt, and to produce a surplus over the present Annuity-tax of £14,941 a-year. This decent annual sum is to be vested, and is expected, with the interest it will produce, to reach £120,000—a sufficient sum to be applied to the extinction of the Town Council rate levied in lieu of the Annuity-tax. "Come again Jill!"—the seat-rents reappear also in the shape of a rate—a police-rate, too—to be levied over the whole community.

To carry out and apply these clever provisions, an unpaid Ecclesiastical Commission is to be created, nominated by the Presbyteries, the Faculty of Advocates, and other bodies. To this Commission, all the property of the Established Church in Edinburgh is to be transferred. The seat-rents—no, we forget, as the Lord Advocate conveniently forgot in his opening speech—the police-rate to be levied in lieu of them—the charge on tonnage levied at the Leith Docks,—and the handsome surplus from the Town Council assessment—calculated to amount altogether, we believe, to 17,000*l.* a-year—are to be allowed to accumulate for fifteen years—which, without counting interest, would, according to our arithmetic, produce upwards of 250,000*l.*—or about as much again as the Lord Advocate states to be necessary—unless the *Times* reporter made a mistake in the figures. With this ample and settled provision, the Established Church may be well expected to sacrifice something, if only to give an appearance of two sides to the bargain. So five out of the eighteen ministers of Edinburgh are, in due time, to go to the wall. The three collegiate charges, and two others, we do not exactly understand which, are to cease to have any claim upon the ecclesiastical fund, after the death of the present incumbents. The Parliamentary representatives of the clerical party are, of course, inwardly delighted—and if they mingle a little censure with their praise, it is, doubtless, done to conceal their delight. This time, at least, there will be no serious opposition from the Church party. The compromise is no compromise whatever on their part. They keep their principles, and they get their money. What more could they desire?

The Anti-Annuity-tax party in Edinburgh will be more yielding than we take them to be, if they accept this measure. On their part,

should they be foolish enough to put up with the Lord Advocate's advice, they will pay their money, and surrender their principles. The scheme is a curious one. It provides that that portion of the inhabitants of Edinburgh which has hitherto been legally exempted from this tax, should furnish the purchase money for redeeming the tax from those who have until now been compelled to pay. 'Peter, who has hitherto paid about tenpence in the pound on his rental, is to pay but ninepence henceforth—and Paul, who paid nothing, is to begin to pay ninepence, or thereabouts—and both are to continue to pay for fifteen years—Peter, to keep up the Edinburgh clergy's current income—Paul, to lay by a sufficient capital to make that income perpetual. The effrontery of the proposal beats anything we can remember. Mr. Black said that if the Bill pleased both the clergy and his constituents, he would not oppose it. We fancy he may pretty safely refer it to the latter. They are about as likely to give their assent, as, in case of a plan for the abolition of Church-rates, the inhabitants of those places in which the impost has ceased would be, were it sought to bring them once more under the tax for a term of years, in order to provide a fund for its extinction. But the electors of Edinburgh have this circumstance in their favour—they have a hold on Mr. Moncrieff's Parliamentary seat. They have only to shake it a bit—and we are much mistaken if the Bill is proceeded with. Meanwhile, let Mr. Black instantly ask leave to re-introduce his own measure, and press it forward step by step, without regard to the Lord Advocate's convenience, as vigorously as Sir John Trelawny does his Bill for the abolition of Church-rates.

Oh, but the House of Lords will not sanction any measure which, in their view, casts discredit on the principle of a Church Establishment. Very well! Let the House of Lords assume the responsibility, and let us wait until they come to a more accommodating state of mind! This is what we shall do in the matter of Church-rates. This is what Edinburgh should do in the matter of the Annuity-tax. The more we show ourselves scared by the Peers, the more ready they will be to scare us. The Lord Advocate's measure shows us clearly enough what we have to expect from ecclesiastical moderation where any compromise is listened to. We had better fight our battle out, or not pretend to fight it at all. It is bad enough to be despoiled of everything we had contended for—but it is infinitely worse to allow ourselves to be also befooled.

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE LIBERATION SOCIETY.

On Thursday evening last, a highly respectable company, composed exclusively of gentlemen, assembled at the London Coffee-house, Ludgate-hill, at the invitation of the Executive Committee of the Liberation Society, who wished to intimate to their leading supporters the course intended to be pursued by them during the present session of Parliament. Among others who attended were Messrs. W. Pollard-Urquhart, M.P., G. H. Whalley, M.P., Samuel Morley, Charles Curling, Apsley Pellatt, James Bell, Deputy Postmaster, Edward Swaine, E. O. Whitehurst, F. Clowes, Jessell and E. S. Pryce, Rev. J. Burnet, Dr. Hoby, Rev. D. Bell, M.A. (of Croydon), Dr. Hahnemann, and Rev. F. Trestrail. We were also gratified to observe several gentlemen from the provinces, among whom were Messrs. E. S. Robinson, of Bristol; Alderman Grubb, of Oxford; Thomas Barnes, of Farnworth; H. S. Foster, of Cambridge; H. O. Wells, of Bristol; H. Hatch, of Oxford; R. W. Boarer, of Folkestone; H. Coatham, of Bristol; R. Rumney, of Manchester; S. Griffith, of Bristol; Dawbarn, of March; and Ridgley, of Huntingdon.

After the company had taken tea in the adjoining rooms, they assembled in the large room of the hotel, and Mr. Samuel Morley took the chair. He

briefly described the order of the proceedings, but reserved his remarks till the information which the committee wished to communicate had been given.

Mr. CARVELL WILLIAMS said that many letters of sympathy had been received from gentlemen, both in town and country, who would gladly have been present if it had been practicable. Among them were mentioned Mr. Bright, M.P., who wrote:—"You need never doubt my sympathy with your labours, or my admiration of the zeal and ability with which your cause is maintained. I think the success which has rewarded your labours up to this time may well encourage you to go on"—Mr. Duncombe, M.P., Mr. Coningham, M.P., Mr. Dunlop, M.P., Mr. Baines, M.P., Mr. Mellor, M.P., Mr. Pease, M.P., Mr. Crossley, M.P., Mr. Fox, M.P., Messrs. J. Ingram Travers, Courtauld, Robert Charles, and James Heywood.

Dr. FOSTER then read a paper descriptive of the present position of the leading questions of which the society takes cognizance.

The first of these was Church-rates, in regard to which they occupied this vantage-ground, that all parties admitted that something must be done in respect to them. No Ministry would stand by the present system, and the witnesses examined by the Lords' Committee differed widely from each other as to the nature of the change which should be made. The subject had, no doubt, excited increased activity of late among the supporters of Church-rates, whose movement, though ill-organised and ill-directed as it evidently was, it would be folly to despise. Three or four central organisations now existed on that side, which looked very like disunion at the outset, and it did not appear that the cry of "The Church is in danger" had proved very effective. The meetings held by the Establishment party during the recess had been for the most part private; had been confined chiefly to the clergy, and to laymen who had previously been opposed to the society's objects; and they had been held mostly in neighbourhoods where such opposition could be excited with comparatively little difficulty. The number of M.P.'s who might be expected to reverse their votes in consequence of such agitation was very small. The character and extent of the opposition offered to rates in parish vestries made it impossible to keep up the exaction for any lengthened period. Applications were being continually received for professional assistance before magistrates, and in most cases the remedy left to the churchwardens was a recourse to the Ecclesiastical Courts—a remedy of which they did not think it prudent to avail themselves. The Endowed Schools' Bill of last session raised an entirely new question, and the carrying of the second reading against a strenuous opposition showed that a good footing had been gained for it, as involving an important principle. The concessions offered by the select committee were utterly inadequate, for they perpetuated the Church character of the schools, which should be nonsectarian, and excluded from the masterships all but members of the Church of England. Schools founded prior to the Toleration Act were generally speaking legally construed into Church of England schools. The trustees, masters and teaching, must all be of the Church of England, except that the modern practice of the Court of Chancery was to admit Dissenting children without requiring them to learn the Church Catechism in all cases in which the Court had jurisdiction and the founder did not expressly forbid it. It had also become not unusual (their position is not supported by law) for Dissenters to be appointed trustees; and in more than one recent case in which proceedings had been taken, or threatened, for their removal, public opinion had been found sufficiently powerful to stop those proceedings. The thing to be remedied was the abnegation of citizenship to Dissenters as a body, and their exclusion from the Mastership of the Schools. The bill of last year proposed to deal with those points by going straight to the Church character of the schools, and enacting that for the future they should not have that character unless the founder gave it them, all the rest following as a necessary legal corollary. The so-called concessions did really no more than save in some cases the expense of an administrative (not contentious) order of the Court of Chancery, and involved the objection, that they perpetuated the Church type of the school and the exclusion from Mastership of any but members of the Church of England. The rule of evidence they were said to be attacking was the rule which—at least from all documents dated prior to the Toleration Acts—cuts down such words as "religion," "godly learning," &c., into technical terms in law, and construed them to mean membership or doctrine of the Church of England. It was true, too, that they objected to referring, in this case, to "usage," as furnishing additional evidence of the founder's intention. But that usage has grown up under shelter of the very construction which had thus been imposed by the judges upon that technical term. It was true, further, that they did not apply our bill to Dissenting Charities as well as to those of the Church of England. But the objectors surely know full well that that application was impossible, inasmuch as there was no technical term for a Dissenting founder to use. To meet, however, some of the objections urged last year, the bill had been redrawn, and it would now deal only with schools founded before the Reformation, which, at all events, should be regarded as belonging to all. It would, in addition, confirm the appeal to the intention of the founders of schools founded since the Reformation, but prior to the passing of the Toleration Act. Even in that modified shape the bill would no doubt be opposed, and its friends must therefore be prepared for a severe struggle. The Annuity-tax Abolition Bill had been twice read a second time, and if the bill about to be brought in by the Lord Advocate did not prove satisfactory, the success of Mr. Mack's would be promoted by the violence lately resorted to to enforce the tax, as well as by the litigation just commenced. It was now proposed to deal with the Irish *Regium Donum* in the same way as the English grant was abolished, viz., by bringing forward, and persevering in, a specific motion for the withdrawal of the grant from the votes, instead of objecting to it when the estimates came on. Mr. Baxter had engaged to submit such a proposition, and it might be expected that the House of Commons would soon be induced to resolve

that the grant should not be increased as it now was year by year; and more than that might be asked, with a hope of success. Mr. Baines would shortly move the re-appointment of the Committee of Inquiry into the operation of the Bible printing patent, and would need all the support that the friends of a free Bible could afford to him. The conduct of the Municipal Corporation Bill of Mr. Haddfield, the Roman Catholic Relief Bill of Mr. Fitzgerald, and the promised Scotch Parochial Schools' Bill, did not rest with the society's executive, but they would be prepared to support all measures which afforded, or sought to give legislative effect to their own principles. A bill enabling Dissenting ministers to officiate in the parish churchyards in certain cases, would be presently brought forward, and Mr. P. Urquhart would propose an address to her Majesty, praying her not to sign the new Statutes of St. John's and Trinity Colleges, Cambridge—statutes which, though they might be legal, were opposed to the spirit of the Universities' Reform Acts; inasmuch as they required a declaration of *bona fide* membership of the Church of England previous to the granting of a fellowship in St. John's College, and provided for his expulsion in the event of his secession. On a review of the position now occupied by the society, it was suggested as probable that the opposition which had sprung up against it would facilitate its progress. Attention was now being drawn to matters which had hitherto been touched upon lightly. It would now be possible to bring before the English public the whole system of the Church Establishment, and that was as anomalous and repugnant to justice as the Church-rate system was now acknowledged to be. Time and the preparation of the public mind would solve all questions as to the direction of future movements; the duty of the society's friends in the meanwhile being to deal with the questions actually before them, with an increased sense of the responsibilities which an extending field of operations must necessarily involve. (Cheers.)

Mr. MORLEY then said that he thought the committee deserved the utmost confidence and praise for the wise manner in which they had conducted the affairs of the association, for the excellent selection of agents, and for the beneficial action of their measures on the country at large. (Cheers.) Everything told them that they would reap if they sowed; and there could be not the slightest doubt as to their ultimate success. It had been his fate to be subjected to some hours' cross-examination by a Committee of the House of Lords, and it was very clear, from the inquiries of the Bishop of London and others, that their lordships had not been readers of the *Nonconformist*—(laughter)—or they would not have supposed that they were extracting from him some great secret in eliciting the principles and designs of the society. As one who had not been identified with the movement at the outset, he felt grateful to men like Mr. Miall and Mr. Burnet, who had laboured on behalf of their principles when the prospect before them was much less bright than it now was. (Hear, hear.) At the present time there was a thirst for information on the subject, for Churchmen had begun to think and to inquire about it; and it was therefore important that they should industriously, and in a wise manner, make known their sentiments, and strive to commend them to the judgments of others. Some of the Lords' Committee expressed surprise at his (Mr. M.'s) opinion that Dissenters would object to Churchmen taxing each other, whereas the fact was, that voluntaries took their stand on a principle, which was that law and force ought not to be employed to support religion in any form. (Hear.) Their object was essentially a religious one, though it was necessary to employ political means. They should keep to high ground in the matter, for they would thereby best promote their ends. The paper which had been read pointed out clearly the course the committee were going to take, and it was deserving of the heartiest support. He believed that the members of the House of Commons were amenable to public opinion in these matters, and that they would act rightly if they were given unmistakably to understand what were the wishes of their constituents. The increased action of the society loudly called for increasing funds. (Hear, hear.) He had himself been as liberal as he possibly could, and he hoped that others would not fail to give the required assistance. In conclusion, he invited a free expression of opinion on the resolution, which he called upon Mr. Miall to propose.

Mr. MIALL, who was very cordially received, said that the opposition to which reference had been made would greatly help forward the cause they had at heart. They were in the position of an invading army who had succeeded in gaining a footing in the territory they meant to possess. Their opponents had been taking a reconnaissance of them, and the society had done the same. The enemy had professed to have discovered their ultimate designs: they had thoroughly unmasked their projects; they saw what they were endeavouring to enforce upon the Legislature, and they seemed to suppose that, having now found out its objects, they were quite competent to defeat them, and to crush the movement. Well, all that was exactly the thing that had been wanted, and it had taken fifteen years to bring matters to that very pass. (Hear, hear.) The great difficulty they had to contend with, in the first instance, was how to bring their principles fairly before the public mind. Thanks to the Duke of Marlborough, they had been able to speak to the people from high places, and it was almost impossible to over-estimate such an advantage. If his lordship had even acknowledged himself a member of the society, and subscribed a thousand guineas, he could not have done more to forward the objects they had in view. (Laughter.) The association was very much in the position of Oliver Cromwell, when he saw the Scotch army coming down the hill, and they might say with him—"The Lord hath delivered them into our hands." Those who had taken an interest in the movement had previously adopted the language of

Job—"Oh! that my enemy would write a book." Now, the enemy had not only issued a big "Blue Book," but also a number of little books all over the country, and the Voluntaries would throw away a splendid opportunity if they did not answer them. (Cheers.) The supporters of the Establishment were not agreed among themselves; they had no leader; they were without a plan. They had also foolishly nailed the flag of "no surrender" to a sinking cause, which was just the very thing which would serve the society's purpose, for it asserted all danger of compromise; while the defence of Church-rates on mere antiquarian grounds was the unwisest policy which could be adopted. (Cheers.) The time was never so favourable for their work. The clerical energy lately displayed had, perhaps, told in the immediate neighbourhoods of those who had taken part in the agitation, but he doubted that Parliament would be influenced even by the resurrection of the archdeacons. (Laughter.) Still, they must not despise any opposition, but advance wisely as well as firmly, keeping their ultimate aims in view under all circumstances, and feeling sure that the English mind would presently, unreservedly, accept principles which were just in themselves, and would advance the progress of the Gospel. (Cheers.) Mr. Miall concluded by proposing—

That the recent formation of several counter-organisations, and the expressed fears of the supporters of Church Establishments, are regarded by this meeting as encouraging proofs, not only of the growing influence of the society, but of the tendency of public opinion in favour of its objects. That the meeting has pleasure in learning that the Executive Committee will press forward, with undiminished hope and energy, the various measures for which it is sought to obtain legislative sanction—more especially its shares in the anxiety of the committee to hasten the abolition of Church-rates, and to put an end to ecclesiastical tests in the ancient endowed schools. That, at the same time, the meeting is deeply impressed with a sense of the obligation imposed on the members of the society to afford that increased personal service and pecuniary support which are imperatively demanded by the new circumstances in which the society's movements have now entered.

Mr. BARNES (late member for Bolton) seconded the motion. While he agreed that the Duke of Marlborough and others had lately received a good deal of light as to what the society really wished, he doubted that they yet understood that it was not the Church of England which was aimed at, but that it was anxiety for the purity and the spread of religion which animated the society's supporters. (Cheers.) Was religion benefited or injured by State-establishments? was the real question at issue.

Mr. WHALLEY, M.P. for Peterborough, expressed his admiration of the earnestness with which the society worked. He occasioned some amusement by describing the helplessness of members of his own Church, who objected to certain ecclesiastical observances and opinions which he feared would some day drive many of them into the ranks of Dissent.

Mr. E. C. WHITEHURST illustrated the action of the Establishment principle in that matter by pointing to the fact, that while at St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, which was a district church, there had been much commotion occasioned by what were termed Puseyite practices, the same system was quietly carried on on a splendid scale at Margaret-street Church, which was, in fact, on a purely voluntary basis.

Mr. LAKEMAN (Brixham) referred to some amusing incidents occurring at recent pro-Church-rate meetings in Devonshire. He also deprecated the idea of relaxing the Mortmain Laws to provide a substitute for Church-rates.

Mr. TUCKETT, on the other hand, thought that they might stretch a point in that direction, to facilitate a settlement of the question.

Mr. NUNNLEY (Market Harbro') expressed his great obligations to the society and its officers. Their tactics were always wise, and they did an astonishing amount of work for a very little amount of money. He strongly recommended the reprinting and wide circulation of the recent articles in the *Nonconformist* on the Church property question, and proceeded to describe recent Church-rate proceedings at Harbro', which are likely to occasion litigation.

Mr. COSHAM (Bristol) said that there were Dissenters as well as Churchmen, who required light on the subject, and he hoped that both would have it imparted to them in a proper spirit—a spirit of kindness, of patience, and of moderation. (Hear.) At Bristol the supporters of Establishments had taken the field, and a spirited warfare was being carried on, both in the press and on the platform. No society had done a greater work in the same time than the Liberation Society, and it must now press on with redoubled energy.

Mr. NEWMAN, Mr. CUNNINGTON, and Mr. JULL (Staplehurst) having spoken, the resolution was carried, and

Mr. H. O. WILLS (Bristol) and Mr. CHARLES CURLING, in emphatic terms, proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Morley, which was heartily adopted, and

The CHAIRMAN, in dissolving the meeting, said that it had afforded him great gratification.

THE CHURCH-DEFENCE MOVEMENT.

The movement in defence of Church-rates appears, so far as we are aware, to be confined to the West of England, and mainly to the rural districts, or to very select meetings in the large towns. The lectures in connexion with the "Church-Defence Association" are proceeding both in Bath and Bristol—the same lecture being delivered in each city successively. We have already noticed the

first of the series. The second was delivered by the Rev. Dr. Carr.

On Friday evening last our old friend, the Rev. Dr. Hume, of Liverpool, was the lecturer. He addressed a numerous auditory at the Victoria Rooms, Bristol. The chair was taken by Charles Pinney, Esq., and there were upon the platform a large number of the clergy of the city, as well as several laymen. The meeting was opened with prayer by the Rev. J. E. Nash, incumbent of St. Peter's, Clifton Wood. Dr. Hume's lecture was mainly statistical—its basis was those hypothetical deductions from the census returns, the fallacy of which has already been exposed in these columns. His figures might, he said, be objected to as only an estimate, but it was carefully and cautiously made; the same objection would apply to every page of the census tables themselves. He considered the statistics he had advanced proved that their town population was fast becoming a heathen population, and that in towns where the necessity was the greatest, there the supply was the least. The lecturer then reviewed the principal points which he had sought to prove, by the facts he had narrated, viz., that whatever was the condition of our great towns, would be virtually the condition of the whole of the kingdom at large; that if they were to evangelise their country, they must first evangelise their great towns; but, that if their great towns were permitted to retrograde, or sink in the scale of civilisation and religion, then, unquestionably, the whole country would sink, both morally and religiously. The rev. doctor impressed upon his audience the necessity of caring for the large body of non-worshippers—heathens in a popular sense of the term, though perhaps not scientifically. Having spoken in favour of Church-rates—the lecturer contending that it was the duty of the people to support the Church, so that God's word might be administered to the inhabitants of the poor district as well as to those of wealthier localities—he concluded by exhorting his hearers to press the subject upon Parliament now that it had assembled, and to go forward together with a long pull, a strong pull, and a pull altogether. (Loud cheers.)

One remarkable feature of this controversy is, that the arguments of the lecturers are promptly answered by the local Liberal papers. "A Churchman" adds "a few more thoughts on the voluntary system" in the *Bath Journal* with this significant postscript:—

The Puseyites in our Church, now rapidly and alarmingly increasing, who a short time since advocated the separation of Church and State, are now all alive for the continuance of its union, since the Church-rate question has been more prominently and perseveringly agitated. There can be no doubt but that they are striving to gain an ascendancy to make our Church a Popish Church, and to retain the union now, in order to keep and hold fast Church-rates and other property in our Establishment. If such a catastrophe should occur, and it is not impossible, would not our Evangelists be compelled to leave the Establishment, and form themselves into a Free Church, and adopt the voluntary principle? Let the Rev. W. C. Magee, and all our worthy clergy in Bath, consider how far this question deserves their notice.

"A Member of the Liberation Society," in the same paper, states ten telling facts relative to tithes in reply to Dr. Carr's imaginative sketch of the tithe system. In the *Western Times*, "A Political Dissenter" answers the arguments of Archdeacon Downall, the Earl of Devon, Lord Churston, and other speakers at the Devon meetings. An "Old Voluntary" corrects some of Dr. Carr's misstatements in the *Bristol Mercury*—how conclusively the following extract will show:—

"Were they," said the lecturer, "with 95 per cent. of the parishes at their backs for Church-rate and Church of England to stand still?" This was intended to intimate that 95 per cent. of the population were in favour of Church-rates, but if Dr. Carr had taken the trouble to look at the Church-rate blue-book published last year he would have found both these statements to be utterly contrary to fact. This return showed that there had been refusals in 2,000 out of 10,206 parishes, which leaves 80 and not 95 per cent. in favour of Church-rates. Out of this number 2,824 parishes sustained the worship of the Established Church only partially by means of Church-rates, leaving but 5291, or about one-half, in which the funds are raised by Church-rates only. Dr. Carr might have gone farther still in this direction. His "95 per cent." was obtained from a blue-book published some years ago, but that 95 per cent. (which was 90) contained a population of only 7,081,249, or 39 per cent. of the gross population of England and Wales. Years ago, therefore, there were only 39 per cent. of the people in favour of Church-rates—what may be the case now it is impossible to tell. We only know that, on an average, scarcely a week passes without Church-rates being refused in some parish, and may, therefore, be certain that they have not now the sanction of anything like a third of the population. It is a wonder that with this strength of public opinion arrayed against them they have not long since been abolished; but ecclesiastical errors, like snakes, are difficult to kill, and Church-money is valued more than any property in the world.

The *Plymouth Journal* contains a report of a meeting of the clergy, churchwardens, and laity of the deanery of Plympton, convened by the Venerable John Downall, M.A., Archdeacon of Totnes, and held at the Royal Hotel, Plymouth, on Monday week. The attendance comprised about a hundred and thirty persons. Lord Valletort, M.P. for Plymouth, proposed the first resolution:—"That this meeting has seen, with apprehension and alarm, the attempts which, within the last few years, have been made for the total abolition of Church-rates." Dr. Yonge seconded the resolution. Mr. Deeble

Boger moved the second resolution, affirming the duty of defensive action in the matter. N. Wilson, Esq., the Mayor of Devonport, seconded the resolution. D. Bastard, Esq., moved a resolution, agreeing to petition Parliament, which Admiral Woolcombe seconded. Our contemporary has the following remarks on this select gathering:—

The meeting at the Royal, respectable as it may have been, was nothing but a hole-and-corner meeting. It was called by circular, and no one was convened, that we are aware of, who was not supposed to be favourable to, or who would venture to oppose the pro-Church-rate movement. Such a meeting then, as a representation of opinion, is a positive farce! We never heard of the intended meeting till the day before it was to be held. No public announcement was made of it, and Archdeacon Downall has, we believe, pursued the same game elsewhere. We trust that Sir John Trelawny will take care to let the House of Commons know what value is to be attached to the petitions which the Archdeacon is so industriously getting up in his ecclesiastical district.

Let us take our own towns as a sample of the state of things here and in the South of Devon. We have in the three towns of Plymouth, Devonport, and Stonehouse, and their attached suburbs, a compact population of 160,000 people. Amongst the whole of these people there is not one clergyman—no matter what may be his private personal feelings—who would venture to propose a Church-rate. We believe we are quite right in saying that there has been no attempt on the part of any of them to levy a rate for at least a quarter of a century. Yet we see the Rev. J. Hatchard, and the Rev. H. A. Greaves, the heads of our mother-churches, giving the sanction of their presence to a meeting for the purpose of upholding a system which they have long since utterly repudiated for their own parishes.

At Tavistock there has also been a pro-Church-rate meeting which, like all that have preceded it, was not open to the public at large, but was limited to those "who feel called upon to defend the principle of Church-rate." There were about fifty persons present, including a number of ladies, who occupied seats in the gallery. Archdeacon Downall presided. He asserted that the Society for the Liberation of Religion from State Patronage and Control openly avowed that they attacked the Church-rates only as an outpost, and that once gained the rest would immediately follow, and they should gain the total separation of the Church from the State. They stated that they had to deal with a bundle of sticks which they could not break, but taking each stick separately, they could easily dispose of them. On this principle they took Church-rates first, next would come tithes, then the parsonage houses, and the churches themselves. The meeting was addressed by Dr. Harries, Mr. Carpenter, Dean Newman, and other gentlemen, and the usual resolutions were carried. Mr. G. Turner asked why the meeting had not been a public one, instead of one-sided? The Archdeacon said the great object of these meetings was for the purpose of showing what the feelings were of those professing to be Churchmen and supporters of Church-rates. The meetings were not held for the purpose of discussion. Mr. Turner: But in my opinion the subject should be brought fully under public consideration. The Archdeacon requested those who took petitions with them for signatures in their respective localities, to get the signatures of ladies thereto. Widows and females possessing any property were competent to sign it. The *Plymouth Journal* says that the people of Tavistock will this week hold a meeting to proclaim against Church-rates, and negative the Archdeacon's dodge, and adds:—

We would just mention one fact to show the weakness of the venerable dignitary's cause. In the entire parish of Buckland Monachorum, one of the largest in the Archdeaconry, only one farmer could be found to sign the petition against Church-rates.

The Bishop of Ripon has openly joined the defenders of Church-rates. At a meeting at Halifax last week he said:—

At one time he looked with anxiety for some scheme by which Dissenters might be relieved from a tax which they deemed unjust and oppressive, but which, at the same time, would leave the principle of Church-rates intact. His views on this subject had, however, of late undergone a material modification; for a careful perusal of the evidence given before the committee of the House of Lords, convinced him that the object of the anti-Church-rate agitators was not simply to obtain relief from an impost repugnant to their consciences, but to accomplish the absolute overthrow of the Establishment itself.

CHURCH-RATES ABOLITION BILL.

The following is the bill to abolish Church-rates prepared and brought into the House of Commons by Sir J. Trelawny and Mr. Dillwyn:—

Whereas Church-rates have for some years ceased to be made or collected in many parishes, by reason of the opposition thereto, and in many other parishes where Church-rates have been made the levying thereof has given rise to litigation and ill feeling: And whereas it is expedient that the power to make Church-rates should be abolished: Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords spiritual and temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. From and after the passing of this act, no Church-rate shall be made or levied in any parish in England or Wales.

2. Provided always, That in any parish where a sum of money is at the time of the passing of this act due on the security of Church-rates to be made or levied in such parish under the provisions of any act of Parliament, such rates may still be made and levied pursuant to

such provisions for the purpose of paying off the money so due, but not otherwise, unless the same shall have been liquidated.

3. Any Church-rate made at any time before the passing of this act may be collected and recovered in the same way as if this act had not been passed.

4. This act may be cited as "The Church-rate Abolition Act, 1860."

The second reading of the bill stands for Wednesday next, the 8th inst.

CONVOCATION AND CHURCH-RATES.

The two Houses of Convocation of the province of Canterbury met on Wednesday. In the Lower House,

Archdeacon HALE, in moving an address to the Upper House on the question of Church-rates, congratulated his rev. brethren on the great change which had taken place on this question since last year. The expression of the views of Convocation on this subject last year had had great influence in the highest quarter, and the House of Lords had consented to have a full inquiry into the matter. A great number of persons possessing an acquaintance with the subject had been examined before the committee, and a most important report had been published, which had been more extensively purchased by the public than almost any other blue-book. It had gone through two or three editions, and in addition to that between 2,000 and 3,000 copies of an abstract of the evidence which he had drawn up had been put into circulation. The consequence of this diffusion of information had been to bring about a great change in public opinion. By giving time for still further discussion and elucidation Convocation would be doing its duty, not only to the Church and the country, but also to the House of Commons, in persuading it to come to a reasonable settlement of the question, and not to treat it as one which no man could solve, and which, therefore, it was worth no man's while to consider. A check also would thus be given to the opponents of the Church, and if a bill for the total abolition of Church-rates were not passed this session it would probably be found totally impossible to pass one at any future time. It was most important that the national councils in such matters should not be guided solely by an assembly comprising a large number of persons who had shown themselves conscientiously hostile to the Establishment, and who were able to use their political power to aid in its destruction. The ven. Archdeacon concluded by moving the following address to the Upper House:—

That this House, adhering to the former expressions of its opinion on the subject of Church-rates, earnestly prays the Upper House to oppose by all means in their power the passing of a law for the abolition of Church-rates; and further takes leave to suggest to the Upper House whether some means might not be devised for enabling both Houses of Convocation to express, by formal resolution, their opinion upon the defects of the existing law, the most practical remedies for the same, and the evil consequences of the alterations which have hitherto been suggested in the Legislature.

Archdeacon DENISON seconded the motion.

Chancellor MARTIN proposed as an amendment to omit the latter part of the address, and to insert the following words instead:—

And this House prays the Upper House to take the subject into their consideration with a view to the removal of the difficulties which beset it, and requests the Upper House to be pleased to appoint a conference between the two Houses on the subject.

After some discussion the amendment was rejected on a division, and the original address agreed to.

Archdeacon BICKERSTETH then moved:—

That a committee of the Lower House be at once appointed to consider and report on the state of the Church-rate question.

The Rev. Mr. MAYOW seconded the motion, which was at once agreed to.

The House was then prorogued until February 14 at 11 o'clock.

RESIGNATION OF CANON WODEHOUSE.

(From the *Daily News*.)

The Rev. Charles Nourse Wodehouse, Canon of Norwich Cathedral, Rector of St. Margaret's, King's Lynn, and chaplain to the Bishop of Norwich, has, on deliberate and matured consideration, resigned the valuable preferments in the Church which he has held all his life, because he can no longer acquiesce in that loose way of interpreting the language of certain parts of the Prayer-book which enables thousands of clergymen holding doctrinal opinions like his own to subscribe to semi-Popish formularies. Canon Wodehouse is a clergyman of whom Bishop Stanley once said in the House of Lords, "Let one who knows him well bear testimony to his valuable services: of his character as a clergyman and as a man it is impossible to speak too highly." He has not forfeited, he has enhanced this reputation; neither has he taken up with any heresy, new or old, but holds, as he always has done, to the essential truths of Christianity such as they are held by the great body of religious persons in this island, whether Churchmen or Dissenters. The objections to portions of the offices of the Church which he makes now are such as he imparted to Bishop Kaye in 1827, to Bishop Stanley in 1844, offering to resign his preferment, and again in 1850 to Bishop Hinds. They relate to the damnable passages contained in that superb monument of human presumption, the Creed called Athanasian; and to the Form of Absolution in the Visitation of the Sick, the words used at the Imposition of Hands in the Ordination of Priests, and the corresponding Form in the Consecration of Bishops. Those of the laity who have read these special offices know that they are so framed as to imply the communication of supernatural power to the person ordained or consecrated. The learned

prelates named above sympathised with Canon Wodehouse in his difficulties, but strongly advised him to remain at his post. Bishop Stanley publicly maintained that the clergy could not be supposed to assent to all and everything to which they subscribed at their ordination. Bishop Kaye told his young friend that he should not consider views like his any impediment to ordination. And Bishop Hinds wrote to him:—"Those expressions in our services for visiting the sick and for ordaining priests and bishops have caused pain and scruple to many conscientious Churchmen besides you." Canon Wodehouse writes to the present Bishop of Norwich that these were the considerations which induced him to continue in the exercise of his ministry to the present time. But he admits that the course he took was never very satisfactory to him, and we ask attention to the reason he gives:—"It appeared to sanction the using very solemn words in a sense different from that which the words themselves must necessarily convey to the generality of the English people." This passage contains the pith of the whole matter. The Evangelical clergyman cannot adopt the words of the services complained of except by a process of interpretation which wrests them from the meaning which is plain to the common sense of the English people. How shall the difficulty be met? We have seen what answer three eminent prelates gave to this question. Here is another, to which Canon Wodehouse has been led in the exercise of his judgment and conscience. He writes to the bishop:—

I am persuaded the Form of Ordination for Priests, while it remains unchanged and unexplained, tends more than anything to generate and foster within our Church opinions and practices objectionable to Protestants. According to your lordship's established custom, an ordination is appointed to take place in March next, which is also one of the months appointed for my cathedral residence. I beg, therefore, respectfully to apprise your lordship that, under present circumstances, I cannot satisfactorily take my usual part in the Ordination service, and appear to approve of a form which is now so objectionably interpreted or understood. Up to this time I have endeavoured to maintain my position in the Church as one of its ministers; but having come to the conclusion that I cannot join in one of its most solemn services, there appears, upon consideration, to be only one becoming course open to me. Having, therefore, already resigned the rectory, &c., of St. Margaret's, Lynn, I now beg to resign my canonry, and also the office of chaplain to your lordship.

PASTORS' RETIRING FUND.

(From the *Patriot*.)

A meeting of the subscribers to this fund was held on Wednesday in the Congregational Library, for the purpose of determining the constitution of the society. Eusebius Smith, Esq., took the chair at twelve o'clock, and the Rev. John Hayden offered up prayer.

The Rev. GEORGE SMITH explained that, agreeably to their instructions, the committee of the Union had appointed a sub-committee, consisting of Mr. E. Parsons, Dr. Ferguson, Mr. H. Rutt, Rev. T. James, himself, and some other gentlemen, to draw up a Constitution for the Pastors' Retiring Fund. They met several times, and very carefully and fully discussed the subject; and at length sent out copies of the resolutions to which they had come to all subscribers, for their approval or for any suggestions in the way of amendment. Some thirty-five replies had been received. Most of the writers generally, and several entirely approved of the scheme; while one or two proposed a radical alteration, so as to make it an equitable instead of a benevolent society. But that suggestion could not now be taken up, because the proposal was found not to be acceptable when made some years ago. It would be for the present meeting to consider and decide upon the whole scheme. He regretted that owing to the death of Mr. W. Patrick, the father-in-law of Mr. John Morley, that that gentleman and Mr. Samuel Morley were unable to be present, and Mr. Rutt was detained from the same cause.

The clauses of the proposed constitution were then separately read and discussed. The term "annuities" given to the grants led to the expression of considerable difference of opinions. Mr. THOMAS BARNES considered that if they were only to be annual grants they should not be called annuities, which implied a legal claim. Mr. SMITH explained that an annual application would not have to be made; and that, practically, when a grant had once been made, it would be continued for life, unless any special cause should arise for its withdrawal.

On the clause that "the annual grant to be voted to each minister shall not exceed the sum of 50*l*," being read, Mr. BARNES inquired, with reference to the disposal of the grants in the first instance, whether a limited number of applicants only would be received, or whether all eligible cases would be entertained, and a general disposition of the money made, so that each had a share? Mr. SMITH supposed that efficiency rather than numbers would be studied, and claimants be taken on the fund as it increased. Dr. MASSIE thought that the maximum amount of the grant should be 100*l*., and not 50*l*.; so as not to prevent ministers who had moved in a respectable sphere of life becoming recipients. Some of this class ought to retire, but they would not unless the door of entrance was made inviting. Dr. BROWN could conceive of a case in which it might be worth 150*l*. to have a pastor retire. Let it not be forgotten that this fund was designed for the benefit of churches as well as ministers. It was resolved that the grant should not exceed 50*l*.

Then came the conditions of the grant, and the first clause, as adopted, ran thus:—

Ministers eligible to receive aid shall be accredited

pastors of the Congregational or Independent denomination in England, Wales, the Channel Islands, or the Isle of Man, who, when they apply, are not less than sixty years of age, have been engaged in the pastoral work of the ministry in such denomination, in any one of the above places, for not less than twenty-five years;—shall during that period have been sustained as such ministers, without following any trade or profession except that of a schoolmaster, are of irreproachable moral character, and whose views of Christian doctrine and practice are in consonance with the "Declaration of Faith, Church Order, and Discipline," adopted on May 10th, 1833, at a general meeting of the Congregational Union of England and Wales.

Dr. MASSIE made a strenuous endeavour to have Ireland admitted, and moved an amendment to this effect, which was seconded by the Rev. J. C. GALLAWAY, but was otherwise unanimously rejected by the meeting. Mr. BARNES thought that if schoolmasters who were also pastors were to be eligible candidates, ministers who were agents for life assurance societies should not be excluded. He would omit the whole of the words relating to trade. The point was debated at much length, and ultimately the clause adopted as above; Mr. BARNES having been assured that the acting as agent for a life assurance society would not prejudice any claim upon the fund. The legal opinion was that an agency of this description was neither a trade nor a profession.

A new clause, sent from Yorkshire, was next discussed and adopted, with but little serious objection, to this effect:—

No grant shall be made to a minister whose application shall be discountenanced by the county or other similar association of which he has been a member.

In the next clause a very important addition had been proposed. We print the words in italics:—

Such pastors as have been annual subscribers, or have availed themselves of life assurance for the benefit of their families, or whose churches may have contributed by annual collections or otherwise to the fund, shall—other things being equal—have the priority of claim.

The amendment, it was stated, had come from Mr. J. R. Mills, and it met with the cordial support of the meeting, and was carried unanimously.

The following clauses, up to clause eight, were passed with some verbal alterations only; but on clause nine there was a good deal of debate, originating with the Rev. E. T. Prust, as to whether, if a minister died within a short time after a grant for a year had been voted, it should be paid to his family or friends. Ultimately it was decided that the payment should cease and determine upon the death of the recipient.

Clause ten was considered very important, which set forth that the foregoing resolution should not prevent the managers, at a meeting duly convened, from treating any special cases as exceptional, in reference to age, term of service, income, and amount of grant, provided four-fifths of the managers present agree that it should be so considered.

On approaching the question of the sources of income, and the reading of the clause in which it was intimated that efforts would be made to increase the fund to the amount of 100,000*l*., Mr. SCRUTTON suggested whether it was not unwise to attempt the accumulation of so large a capital? He felt sure it would prevent multitudes of annual contributions being made to the support of the object, and might be found, like other endowments, to hinder the very object which it was designed to effect. Mr. T. JAMES, the CHAIRMAN, and Mr. PARSONS, replied that without an ample fund, the managers could not undertake to guarantee the regularity and permanence of the grants. Mr. BARNES strongly objected to the proposal to invest the money only in Government Securities, urging that at least one per cent. more could be obtained by investing in Railway Bonds. This point was discussed largely; and at length it was resolved to appoint a sub-committee of lay gentlemen, well versed in such matters, to fully consider it, and to report to a subsequent meeting. This plan was the more readily agreed to when Mr. SMITH read a letter from Mr. Samuel Morley, suggesting the desirability of the Constitution not being finally determined upon at the present meeting, and another from Mr. Cripps, of Leicester, taking the same view as Mr. Barnes respecting investments.

At this period of the meeting Dr. BROWN, of Cheltenham, stated that a warm friend to this fund—who had already contributed largely to it, and who had lately offered to add 1,500*l*. to 1,500*l*. that might be raised in Wales—had authorised him to say that if 3,000*l*. more was contributed to the fund within twelve months, he would add to it 3,000*l*. And he did not limit the mode of raising it, but would prefer that wealthy friends should give their 300*l*. or 500*l*. each. It must be done, however, within the year. The generous man, who did not wish his name mentioned, was now in his seventy-ninth year, and very anxious to have the fund made up to 29,000*l*. or 30,000*l*. In reply to a question, Mr. SMITH stated that the amount already received was between 8,000*l*. or 9,000*l*.

A series of resolutions in reference to the management of the fund were subsequently discussed and agreed upon; and it was finally resolved to reprint the Constitution as it now stands, and remit it to the sub-committee with a view to its being communicated once more to the subscribers; not, however, with a view to elicit further suggestions, but for their information, and to give any of them an opportunity of being present at the meeting in London, when the clauses shall be confirmed and the managers and trustees appointed.

The meeting closed at half-past three.

ANOTHER RIOT IN ST. GEORGE'S EAST.

On Sunday evening last there was a frightful riot, resulting in the destruction of much of the church furniture, in the parish church of St. George's-in-the-East. No theatre ever contained such an audience as that which there and then assembled. There was cat-calling, cock-crowing, yelling, howling, hissing, shouting of the most violent kind; snatches of popular songs were sung, loud cries of "Bravo" and "order" came from every part of the church; caps, hats, and bonnets were thrown from the galleries into the body of the church and back again, while pew-doors were slammed, lucifer matches struck, and attempts were more than once made to put out the gas. At seven o'clock a procession of priests and choristers entered the church, headed by the Rev. Bryan King, the rector. Their appearance in the church caused intense excitement. People jumped on to their seats, pew-doors were violently slammed, and loud shouts of execration proceeded from every part of the church. Mr. King took his place on the seat on the south side of the altar, Mr. Lowder being on the north. The latter gentleman said the first portion of the prayers, Mr. King the last. Scarcely a word was audible. Hitherto the congregation have contented themselves with "saying" the responses in opposition to the choristers, who sing them; but last night they indulged in responses which are not in the Prayer-book, and which were nothing short of blasphemous mockery. At the close of the prayers Mr. Lowder ascended the pulpit, and was hissed and yelled at by the people with tremendous energy. He was unmoved by their assaults, and gave as his text Matt. viii. 26—"And he saith unto them, Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith," &c. He expressed his belief that when the persecution ceased the Church would triumph, and then exclaimed with great force, "Who is fearful for the everlasting Church of Christ?" This was followed by a general shout of "Who's afraid?" and loud, long-continued laughter. The rev. gentleman bore this indignity with apparently stoical indifference, and when tranquillity had been to some extent restored, addressed the boys present, reminding them that one day they might be laid on a bed of sickness, when the awful sin of sacrilege, which they were then committing, would rise up in judgment against them. The boys responded with a shout of derisive laughter. Mr. King, Mr. Lowder, and the choristers, made their way to the vestry-room with great difficulty, being more than once subjected to personal violence. Scenes similar to those already described again took place, until Inspector Alison upon his own authority entered the church with a dozen policemen, and ordered it to be cleared. Turned out of the church, the rioters suggested an attack on Mr. King's house, and many persons who went there were very roughly handled. In the course of an hour Inspector Alison had got the whole of the disorderly mob into the street.

CHURCH-RATES AT WEM, STAFFORDSHIRE.—At a vestry-meeting in this parish a few days ago a Church-rate of one penny in the pound was carried. It appears that 4*l*. is paid yearly to the poor out of the rate in lieu of rent, and the churchwardens were requested to ask counsel's opinion on the legality of the item. The question excites a good deal of interest in the parish.

DR. POMROY has at last addressed a letter to the Christian public of the United States, denying, in the most distinct terms, the crime imputed to him, though he admits that he has behaved foolishly in allowing hush-money to be extorted from him, that his character is justly forfeited for the scandal occasioned, and professes himself deeply penitent. —*Patriot*.

CHRISTIANITY IN INDIA.—An event has recently occurred in India which is regarded by some as more important to Christianity in India than the baptism of Maharajah Dhuleep Sing, the establishment of a Christian mission at Kuppoothullah, under the protection of the Rajah, who rendered us such valuable aid in Oude, and who bears the whole expense. Since his recent marriage with Miss Hodge, a Christian girl, the Rajah has disregarded caste, and has been engaged in the study of the Scriptures with a view to baptism. —*Homeward Mail*.

PROTESTANTISM IN HUNGARY.—An influential and enthusiastic meeting was held on Thursday, in the Religious Institution Rooms, Glasgow, to express sympathy with the persecuted Protestants of Hungary. Mr. Henry Dunlop, of Craigton, occupied the chair. Resolutions of sympathy were unanimously adopted, and a committee appointed to carry out the objects of the meeting. The following, among other resolutions, were adopted:—

That this meeting expresses its unbounded admiration of the character and efforts of the champion of Hungarian liberty, Louis Kossuth, and appoints the chairman to request the illustrious Magyar to convey to his patriotic countrymen the sentiments of the meeting, as well as to express the hope that he may soon find it convenient to visit Glasgow, to explain more at length than in his recent admirable letter, the grounds on which the people of Hungary are entitled to the cordial sympathy of every lover of civil and religious freedom in this country.

Among the speakers at the meeting were the Rev. Dr. W. Anderson, Rev. Dr. Smyth, and the Rev. Dr. Robson, Mr. John Henderson, the Rev. G. Jeffery, Mr. W. Paton, Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, and Baillie Young. It was decided that the resolutions should be forwarded to M. Kossuth, for transmission to Hungary.

REFUSAL TO BURY A CHILD.—Some days ago, one of the most respectable inhabitants of Aberdare, and a Baptist, had a child of eight years of age taken away by the hand of death. Of course the child had not been sprinkled. Burial was sought for it in the Church burying-ground, where some members of the

family had been previously interred. No demur was made by the Vicar, or those acting for him; but on the day of the funeral, and as the procession was about to leave the house, the newly-appointed Vicar, who was present, asked the parent of the child to delay leaving the house, whilst he went to see a friend. The funeral procession was accordingly delayed, but instead of returning the Vicar sent a messenger back to say that neither himself nor either of his curates would bury the child, because it had not been properly baptized; and further, of course, that the corpse would not be allowed to enter the church. Can anything more contemptibly narrow minded be imagined? If this rev. Vicar of Aberdare had been called to bury the body of a man who had lived the life of a low drunkard and debauchee, he would have read over the grave, that his body was committed to the ground "in sure and certain hope of a resurrection unto everlasting life." But to the body of a child, whose life was unspotted by sin, he must needs deny the rites of burial.—*Welsh Paper.*

MARTIN ESCALANTE.—A public meeting was held at Edinburgh on Monday week, presided over by the Lord Provost, to consider the case of Martin Escalante, a British subject, who has been sentenced to nine years' penal servitude for distributing the Bible in Spain, and to memorialise the Government to take such steps as may obtain his release. Mr. Sheriff Jameson having made a statement of the circumstances, resolutions were passed on the intolerance and persecution shown by the Spanish authorities in the case; and a memorial was adopted, of which the following are the concluding paragraphs:—

That there is reason to believe that the harshness and severity of these odious acts of persecution have been increased in consequence of the popular excitement in Spain against the British people and against our national faith, produced through the efforts of the priests and their journals, who represent that the Moors are assisted by the English in the war with Spain. That the memorialists humbly but urgently request that your lordship would exert the power and influence of the British Government in behalf of this victim of priestly intolerance; and they venture to hope that your lordship, who has so nobly vindicated and expressed the principles of religious freedom when they were outraged in the person of the natives of foreign States, will not hesitate to raise the same voice in behalf of a British subject who has been imprisoned for obeying a command that all Protestant Churches deem binding on Christians, and who, after suffering an imprisonment protracted beyond all reasonable endurance, is now condemned to a punishment that amounts, in his case, to a cruel and lingering death. May it therefore please your lordship to take such steps as may seem fit on the part of her Majesty's Government, to procure the immediate and complete liberation of Escalante, and the reversal of the cruel sentence pronounced against him.

In answer to the memorial addressed to Lord John Russell by a meeting held a short time since in St. Martin's Hall, Lord Wodehouse has replied, stating that—

Mr. Buchanan has not failed to urge the case on the consideration of the Spanish Government; and Lord John Russell gathers from Mr. Buchanan's last reports that Mr. Escalante has been liberated on bail, and that there is reason to believe that he will eventually receive a free pardon from the Queen of Spain. I am further to add, that Lord John Russell has no reason to think that there has been any remission on the part of Mr. Consul Brackenbury in dealing with this matter.

Religious Intelligence.

THE SPECIAL SERVICES IN THE THEATRES.

SADLER'S WELLS.

We hasten to assure our readers that the awful warning uttered, by a peer of the realm, has not yet sufficed to close the doors of the theatres opened for the preaching of the Gospel to the working classes. Sadler's Wells Theatre was on Sunday evening crowded with a miscellaneous, but well-behaved congregation, in spite of the threat of Earl Dunsannon to call the attention of the Lords spiritual and temporal, on some future day, "to religious services conducted by clergymen of the Church of England at Sadler's Wells and other theatres." We know not whether his lordship himself was present, concealed behind the drapery of one of the private boxes, but the attendance of so large a number of well-dressed ladies and gentlemen in this part of the theatre may have been owing to his notice of Friday night. Conspicuous amongst those who supported the officiating clergyman, the Rev. J. Cohen, Chaplain of the City Prison, Holloway, were the Hon. A. Kinnaird and other well-known friends of the Special Services movement. The audience that filled the theatre was, for the most part, to all appearance composed of working men and their families, who throughout behaved with the utmost propriety.

Sadler's Wells, we need hardly say, is a small theatre in the Islington district which has attained somewhat of a classical reputation by the Shakspearian revivals of Mr. Phelps. It will hold some 2,800 persons. Services on the plan of that pursued at the Britannia have been held here with a like success for some weeks past. Of those ministers who have best succeeded in fixing the attention of its frequenters on Sunday may be mentioned the Rev. Mr. Rogers, of St. Luke's, Holloway, and the Rev. C. Tucker, Baptist minister, of Camden-road Chapel. We were informed, on the impartial testimony of those permanently connected with the theatre, that these services have already produced a wholesome influence upon the Church absenters that frequent them, and that from the commencement the congregations have

been increasingly attentive, in spite of the presence of an unusually large number of "London boys."

On Sunday evening last the audience was, as usual on these occasions, supplied with papers containing the hymns for the evening, and the singing was sustained by a seraphine. After the hymn, which commenced the service, in which the congregation appeared generally to join, Mr. Cohen knelt upon the stage, and offered an extempore and earnest prayer with an emphasis of delivery that must have made him heard in the remotest parts of the building. He then read the 23rd chapter of Luke, describing the crucifixion of our Lord. His text was taken from Acts xvii. 6, "These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also." From these words—which Lord Dunsannon might choose to express his Tractarian alarms—Mr. Cohen delivered a plain and earnest, evangelical discourse, showing what was the essence of that Gospel which produced so striking an effect upon the Philipians. He showed that religion was founded in love—the love of God to man—the love of Christ, who gave himself for man. Referring to the interest felt in these services for the conversion of the metropolis to the truth as it is in Jesus, he mentioned that, from his own knowledge, in the prison with which he is connected, prayers had that day been offered in some of the cells for the blessing of God upon the appeals now made to the unconverted. He instanced the fearfully sudden death of Captain Harrison as an instance of the uncertainty of life, and a motive for instant decision. They had the present opportunity, but might never have another. It was evident that Mr. Cohen was not in the habit of preaching before large congregations, and found some difficulty in adapting himself to the one before him. But what was wanting in pulpit eloquence and the facility of presenting the Gospel in its most attractive forms, was made up by the simplicity and solemnity of his appeals, and his apt quotations from Scripture. With the exception of some passages from the Prayer-book in his devotional utterances, the repetition of the Lord's Prayer (the audience joining in the responses), and a somewhat dry and formal presentation of Gospel truth, it would have been difficult to believe that an ordained minister of the Church of England was officiating on the occasion. Perhaps Lord Dunsannon's fears are not altogether groundless. When pious clergymen in considerable numbers are week by week preaching in unconsecrated buildings, throwing aside gown and cassock, abolishing written sermons, setting at naught canons and formularies, and associating with schismatical Dissenters, in their zeal for the spread of Divine truth, Lords spiritual and temporal may begin to tremble for the safety, not of the Church spiritual, but of the Church as by law established.

In Sadler's Wells Theatre, as well as in St. James's Hall, the Victoria and the Garrick Theatres, there will in future be a Sunday afternoon as well as evening service. The first will be conducted next Sunday by the Hon. and Rev. Baptist Noel, M.A., minister of John-street Chapel.

THE BRITANNIA.

The Britannia Theatre, Hoxton, was densely crowded on Sunday. Probably 4,000 persons found place within its walls, and hundreds more were excluded by the necessary closing of the doors a quarter of an hour before the time for commencing service. The vast majority of the audience were men. Very few children were present, but there were many of the age when youth is passing into manhood. Mr. Charles Dickens and Mr. Blanchard Jerrold sat in one of the boxes and listened attentively to the sermon. The preacher of the evening was the Rev. Newman Hall, B.A., of Surrey Chapel. The service commenced with a hymn, after which Mr. Hall invited his hearers to join him in the General Confession of the Church of England and the Lord's Prayer, to which many responded. Another hymn was then sung, and Lev. xix. and part of Matt. v. (the sermon on the Mount) were read, as exhibiting leading points of the Divine law under the Old and New Testament dispensations. Extempore prayer was then offered, after which Mr. Hall read as his text Psalm lxxii., setting forth the reign of Christ. The first part of the sermon was a familiar reasoning with the audience in reply to the objections urged by many of the working classes against Christianity. This was followed up by a declaration of Christ's willingness to save, and of the way of salvation through his atonement; closing in terms of earnest appeal to the hearts and consciences of the people. All listened with the utmost quietude and attention, and when the preacher intimated that, as he had exceeded his time, those who wished might leave the place during the last hymn, very few stirred. Tracts were distributed at the doors as the people left, and the greatest eagerness was manifested to obtain them.

The preachers on Sunday at the various other theatres were—Victoria, Lambeth, Rev. F. Perry, Incumbent of Christ Church, Rotherhithe, in the afternoon, and Rev. John Graham, Craven Chapel, in the evening. Garrick, Whitechapel, Rev. W. Kirkus, of Hackney, in the afternoon, and Rev. T. Richardson, Incumbent of St. Matthew's, Pell-street, St. George's East, in the evening.

MR. SPURGEON'S TABERNACLE.—Mr. Holmes, of Cotham, near Bristol, who gave 3,000*l.* towards Mr. Spurgeon's new tabernacle when the foundation-stone was laid, has now sent a further donation of 2,000*l.* with the same object.

MR. SPURGEON IN DUBLIN.—The Rev. C. H. Spurgeon delivered his first sermon in Dublin on Tuesday, in the Metropolitan Hall, Lower Abbey-street. The congregation was (says the *Dublin Express*) a most respectable one, comprising many of our leading private citizens. The Lord-Lieutenant appeared conspicuously on the platform. His Excellency was accompanied by the Dean of

Ardagh. The Dean of St. Patrick's also occupied a seat on the platform.

INDEPENDENT CHAPEL, DEAD-LANE, WARR.—The Rev. Palmer Law, of Penryn, Cornwall, on Sunday last entered on his pastoral engagements at the above place of worship, vacant by the removal of the Rev. R. Ricards to Barbice.

BUNTINGFORD, HERTS.—The Rev. Edward James Bower, of Cheshunt College, has received and accepted a cordial and unanimous invitation to become the pastor of the Congregational church in Buntingford. He entered upon his duties last Sunday.

TEA-MEETING OF LONDON SWEEPS.—On Monday, the 16th, a meeting of the sweeps of London was held in the spacious rooms of the Stepney Meeting Sunday Schools to partake of "the cup which cheers but not inebriates." The Rev. J. Kennedy was in the chair. There were present nearly 200 sweeps from all parts of London, with their wives. The meeting was addressed by several sweeps in a very able manner, and also by Mr. T. B. Smithies, editor of the *British Workman*. The object of the meeting was to elicit the state of religion in this very useful class of mechanics, and it was pleasing to find that there were a number of them who were actively engaged in promoting the moral and religious welfare of their fellow tradesmen. A large quantity of useful religious periodicals were circulated amongst them. The meeting, which was gathered under the auspices of the Lady Superintendent of the Stepney and Limehouse Fields Female Bible Mission, seems to have given universal satisfaction; and the general impression was that great good must result from this singularly interesting meeting, and which was well sustained for nearly five hours.

REVIVAL AT BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.—The Rev. C. G. Finney has been labouring in this town for some weeks past with most remarkable success. For a fortnight he preached in Duke's-alley Chapel (Independent), and since New Year's-day in the Methodist New Connexion, Free Church, and Mawdsley-street Independent Chapels. The interest awakened led the friends who had invited him to take the Temperance Hall, a building capable of holding about 3,000 persons, which has been densely crowded time after time. The last two Sundays, January 15th and 22nd, hundreds were turned away who could not be accommodated, even in the ante-rooms, with standing-places. Meetings are held every evening, in which ministers of all the Evangelical Nonconformist bodies take part. During the second week of the year they conversed with upwards of 300 persons, who had been awakened to a sense of sin, and this number has been so largely increased since that probably not less than 1,000 persons are now under serious impressions, or have found their Saviour, and been enabled to rejoice in his forgiving love. Mrs. Finney has held meetings for ladies twice every day, the attendance at which has been very large, and the effects of which have been of the most hallowed character.—*From a Correspondent.*

THE MORAL INFLUENCE OF THE IRISH REVIVAL.—TESTIMONY OF THE ASSISTANT BARRISTER FOR COUNTY DERRY.—At an early period of the revival movement, a Roman Catholic Judge of Assize (Judge Ball) felt it due to truth to testify, from the judicial bench, the great moral reformation which, even then, had begun to show itself throughout society; and at the recent opening of the Quarter Sessions at Coleraine, on the 7th instant, W. Armstrong, Esq., Assistant-Barrister for county Derry, volunteered a similar testimony, drawn from his own experience. The importance of this latter declaration is, that at the time when Judge Ball remarked the extraordinary change which had taken place in popular morality, the revival was in a state of comparative infancy. A sufficient interval has now elapsed, so as to allow mere enthusiasm to cool down, and genuine principle to develop itself; and, so far as the diminution of crime is concerned, the result is pre-eminently satisfactory amongst our local community. On the occasion alluded to, the Assistant-Barrister said:—

When I look into the calendar for the last three months, which is now before me, and in memory look back on calendars that came before me, I am greatly struck with its appearance on this occasion. During the entire of the three months which have passed since I was here before, I find that but one new case has to come before you, and one which is, in some respects, very unimportant. As I said before, I am greatly struck at the appearance of this calendar, so small is the number of cases, when I formerly had calendars filled with charges for different nefarious practices, pocket-picking, and larcenies of various sorts. Now I have none of these, I am happy to say. How is such a gratifying state of things to be accounted for? It must be from the improved state of the morality of the people. I believe I am fully warranted now to say that to nothing else than the moral and religious movement which commenced early last summer can the change be attributed. I can trace the state of your calendar to nothing else. It is a matter of great gratification when we see the people of this country improving, and I trust that no temptations of any sort will arise by which they can be induced to forsake the paths of rectitude.

It is necessary to put this class of testimonies upon special record, particularly at a time when certain orders of ecclesiastics are beginning to creep abroad out of their caves, and to give printed circulation to broad caricature, in lieu of Christian sobriety and historic truth, in relation to the marvellous events of the year 1859, in the province of Ulster.—*Derry Standard.*

LEEDS.—A large and interesting social meeting was held on Thursday evening last, January 26, in the school-rooms of Queen-street Chapel, Leeds. With great taste the young people of the congregation had decorated the two rooms, the partition be-

tween which had been removed. Laurel and fine evergreens, sent by a gentleman in the neighbourhood, were wreathed with various coloured flowers, and a fresco of mottoes at the back of the chairman gave an elegant appearance to the room. The mottoes "Praise," "Unity," "Progress," were formed of green leaves upon a white ground. The Rev. William Guest, the pastor, occupied the chair, and in an effective speech referred to the principles on which his people had acted during the whole of his pastorate, urging prayerful perseverance in the various works of Christian usefulness in which they are now engaged. The treasurer (Isaac Dodgshun, Esq.), presented a financial statement, which awakened the enthusiastic gratitude of the audience. He had suggested at the last annual meeting the desirableness of raising the sum of 1,000*l.*, and a free-will offering of 1,300*l.* had been presented by the congregation. The mortgage debt of 800*l.*, incurred in the enlargements was thus extinguished; the cost of the recent improvement of the branch school by the erection of three class-rooms, was paid, and a balance left in the treasurer's hands. The whole meeting rose at the close of the statement to sing the Doxology. Resolutions of gratitude and of renewed consecration were spoken to, statements of the evangelising efforts of the church were made, and the fact mentioned that during the year the congregation had raised for the cause of God the sum of 2,340*l.*—*Leeds Mercury.*

MOLD.—FREE CHURCH ORDINATION SERVICES.—For some time past one of the large rooms over the Market Hall, in Mold, has been occupied for the purpose of carrying on religious worship in the English language. The people by whom these services have been conducted are known by the name of the "Free Church," and the cause was carried on for a considerable period without any stated minister, the pulpit being supplied in the meantime by preachers of various dissenting denominations. Previous to the commencement of these services we believe there was no English preaching at all in Mold, except in the parish church, where there is both an English and Welsh service. About seven months ago an invitation was given to the Rev. W. W. Harry, which was accepted, and Tuesday last was fixed for the ordaining of the rev. gentleman as pastor of the church and congregation. The first service in connexion with the ordination took place at eleven o'clock on Tuesday morning, when the larger of the two rooms over the Market Hall was filled with a very respectable and attentive audience. The service commenced with the *Te Deum Laudamus*, and after the reading of the Scriptures and offering up of a prayer, by the Rev. J. Widdows, an introductory discourse was delivered by the Rev. C. Chapman, M.A., of Chester, based upon Ephesians ii. 19—22: subject, the nature and constitution of a church. The questions were then asked the pastor by the Rev. Isaac Harries, and answered at some length in a very satisfactory manner. The ordination prayer was satisfied by the Rev. Roger Edwards, during which the usual form of the laying on of hands was gone through. The charge was delivered by the Rev. T. Raffles, D.D., LL.D., of Liverpool, and was based upon 2 Corinthians vi. 3, "Giving no offence in anything, that the ministry be not blamed." After the service a dinner took place in the adjoining room, where about sixty guests sat down, the chair being occupied by the Rev. W. Warldlow Harry. In the evening the hall was crowded to excess. Prayers were read by the newly-ordained minister, the lessons by the Rev. John Griffiths, of Buckley, who also offered a most appropriate prayer. The Rev. William Howells, of Liverpool (one of the most ablest and eloquent preachers belonging to the Principality), who was to have preached to the church and congregation, had been obliged to return home, on account of the alarming illness of one of his children. The Rev. J. Widdows, of Rainford, kindly supplied his place. These most interesting services were concluded with prayer by Mr. Harry.—*Abridged from the Denbighshire Advertiser.* [Our contemporary says that in this church a revised form of the liturgy is used, and it is established upon such a basis as to include members of various evangelical communities. "Judging by the very large congregations present at the ordination, we presume it has the sympathy of the town."]

Correspondence.

THE CLERGY AND THE "SATURDAY REVIEW."

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—The *Saturday Review* of January 21st devotes a long and characteristic article to the review of a pamphlet recently published with a view to set forth the claims of ill-paid ministers of the Establishment. It was almost superfluous to say that the remarks are all of them marked by considerable talent, and some of them by a high moral tone. Startling facts are given touching the indigent condition of thousands of those who have taken holy orders, and just complaints are made.

So far, so good. For one, however, I must confess I was not a little surprised when the *Saturday Reviewer* began to deal with the most important branch of his theme, namely, the remedy. What is it? The grand panacea, Sir, is this;—the clergy should not marry when they have such poor salaries. A young man should not assume the surplice and cassock unless he is prepared to marry a rich wife, or live a life of glorious bachelorhood on 80*l.* per annum. Why should young "sprigs of divinity" be so anxious to wed? Others do without wives, why should not they?

Thus does the writer (evidently a bachelor) argue. Does he really mean what he says? Has he calculated

the probable moral consequences of an unmarried clergy? Has he "counted the cost" of virtue which this change would involve? Every one knows how celibacy acts on the Continent, and what Papal priests too often are. And let us remember that human nature is the same in Protestants as in Catholics; therefore, in all likelihood, the same fearfully pernicious fruits would grow from the upas-tree of ecclesiastical celibacy. We should soon have our pulpits stained with the most detestable vice, and it would be ours to behold crime in those who ought to be held in reverence for their virtue.

With all deference, I submit, Mr. Editor, that the *Saturday Review* has not touched the root of the evil. The cause of badly-paid clergy is to be found in public illiberality. And what is it that fosters and encourages want of generosity? The union of the Church and the State. Members of the English Establishment are not trained to remunerate their ministers; they are excused from all participation in it by the interference of foreign aid; therefore are they illiberal.

It may be asked, in reply to the above, are there no insufficiently remunerated Dissenting ministers? There are, and we deplore it. But is this the legitimate outcome of the principle of voluntarism? Most emphatically not. It is owing to various causes, as, to wit, want of fearless and intelligent explanation and advocacy of the pastor's necessities and rights. Where these latter are understood there is always adequate ministerial remuneration.

The true remedy, therefore, of the ills upon which the seventh-day critic expatiates, is voluntarism. Let the clergy be earnest and pious, loyal to Christ and faithful to man, and then, throwing themselves upon the liberality of their hearers, they will not have to-morrow a meagre table and a threadbare wardrobe. Such, at least, is the sober conviction of

Your obedient servant,
T. R. S.

Burnley, January 20, 1860.

CLERICAL DEFENDERS OF SLAVERY.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—A clerical defender of slavery has written a book on "The Power of Prayer," one of its chapters being furnished by a slaveholding minister, who advocated burning the abolitionists. In the United States, religion is deeply injured by such men advocating one of its chief and most solemn duties; and as the work is being circulated in England, the facts respecting it should be known.

The author of the work is Dr. S. I. Prime, editor of the *New York Observer*. He publicly declared that "Uncle Tom's Cabin" was an antichristian book, and a libel upon the Christian ministry. For his support of slavery, he was refused to be received at the public meeting of the British and Foreign Bible Society. The *Anti-Slavery Reporter* and other papers published at the time show this. The closing chapter in the work is written by a slaveholder. The heading is "Prayer shown to be Efficacious." By Rev. William Plummer, D.D., LL.D." If your readers will turn to the "Key to Uncle Tom's Cabin," Part IV., chapter 1st, they will read as follows:—"The Rev. William S. Plummer, D.D., of Richmond (Virginia), a member of the Old School Presbyterian Church, is another instance of the same sort. He was absent from Richmond at the time the clergy in that city purged themselves, in a body, from the charge of being favourably disposed to abolition. On his return, he lost no time in communicating to the chairman of the committee of correspondence his agreement with his clerical brethren. The passages quoted occur in his letter to the chairman:—"I have carefully watched this matter from its earliest existence, and everything I have seen or heard of its character, both from its patrons and its enemies, has confirmed me beyond repentance, in the belief that, let the character of abolitionists be what it may in the sight of the Judge of all the earth, this is the most meddlesome, impudent, reckless, fierce, and wicked excitement I ever saw."

"If abolitionists will set the country in a blaze, it is but fair they should have the first warming at the fire. . . . Lastly, abolitionists are like infidels, wholly unaccustomed to martyrdom for opinion's sake. Let them understand that they will be caught [lynched] if they come among us, and they will take good heed to keep out of our way. There is not one man among them who has any more idea of shedding his blood in this cause than he has of making war on the Grand Turk."

That some abolitionists are willing to shed their blood in the cause was evinced by the death of Captain Brown and his sons. Atrocious as are the laws of Virginia—and the civilised world has pronounced the severest censures upon them—they are less cruel than the Rev. Dr. Plummer. The former required the hanging of abolitionists who would arm the slaves; the latter, dispensing with law, would incite the mob to burn unarmed abolitionists for advocating emancipation.

I might refer to various other portions of the work on "Prayer," to show the service it has rendered to the slave power, but the above may be considered sufficient.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

EDWARD MATHEWS.

Stradbroke, Suffolk, Jan. 10, 1860.

GENERAL EDUCATION.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—In anticipation of a renewed discussion of the expediency of Government interference with the education of the poorer classes, may I beg room for a few remarks on what appear to me to be the weak points, not indeed of voluntarism, but of the position which many voluntaries choose to occupy. Every year is furnishing such overwhelming proof of the advantage of better general culture, and, more still, of the ruinous consequences of general ignorance, that no mere crotchet will be allowed to stay the progress of education; and if those who hold the soundest principles will not consent to detach impracticable crotchets from them, there is much danger that crotchets and principles may be alike disregarded. There is even greater danger that principles negatively sound will be disregarded if they are not also positively sound. It is not enough to prevent the wrong person doing the right thing; it is equally important that the right thing shall somehow be completely done. And it is not too much to affirm that, in the judgment of those who have forsaken voluntarism,

or are on the very brink of forsaking it, or have never committed themselves to it, it seems both crotchety and narrow—a kind of dog in the manger.

I firmly believe that a really unreligious (much more anti-religious) education would be a great evil; and that in voluntary schools it is generally well that the teaching should be even so far formally religious as to include a fair proportion of Bible lessons. But in the controversy about Government aid, to insist on "religious and voluntary" education seems to many a crotchet. Voluntarism, not religion, is the opposite and antidote of State interference. If a Government were to insist upon teaching religion, that would be an additional—even taken alone, a sufficient—reason for resistance. But voluntaries have other reasons quite independent of religion. They object, *e.g.*, that Government education furnishes a supply before there is an effective demand; that its apparatus is far too costly; that it unduly augments Government influence; that it tends to destroy individuality among its teachers and scholars, and to fashion all minds in the same mould; that it generates and strengthens a habit of looking to Government, which has become in the end destructive to all nations who have acquired it; that to be complete it must create the demand as well as the supply, *i.e.* must become compulsory; that compulsory general education must be connected with a compulsory limitation of population among the poor, which, however necessary, is scarcely within the province of Government, nor likely, for a long time to come, to be required even by public opinion.

Yet a recent meeting of voluntary teachers at Radley's Hotel it was nearly determined to make it a condition of membership of their association, to "hold the essential doctrines of Christianity"—a condition which would have combined the two absurdities of being utterly irrelevant and utterly useless, unless combined with some definite standard of orthodoxy. Of course the scruples of the minority were "conscientious." Is there any conceivable nonsense that has not been, or might not be so? And teachers are the very class who personally suffer most of all from the effects of the Government system upon voluntarism; and who are most personally interested in uniting on the basis of their voluntarism, pure and simple; reserving for their own discretion, or more correctly, for the committees who employ them, the amount and form of religious teaching that they may be willing or permitted to give. Permitted—for though it is quite possible that a day-school teacher may think himself "called" to the work of the ministry; it is surely obvious that the managers of the school would be wise to supply his place, after due notice, with one who felt himself "called" to the work of the day-school. The difficulties of our position are quite numerous and complicated enough without the additional complication of irrelevant crotchets.

Indeed, teachers suggest another of the weak points of voluntarism. Apart from a kind of loose connexion with the colleges in which they have been trained (itself by no means free from very serious drawbacks), they are utterly unorganised. Under the Government system certificates and inspection remedy this defect, and do not involve an offensive and irresponsible patronage. The inspector, moreover, is a most useful medium of communication between a good teacher and his (or her) committee. He may make suggestions which from a teacher would not be listened to; or would be put off with "Must you have it?" "Can't you do without it?" Committees are in very many cases a pure sham. The members are very irregular in their attendance on committee-meetings; and their visitation of the schools is often mischievous and nearly always useless.

For, in fact, it is supposed by many, not without a show of reason, that many of our voluntaries do not really want to educate at all, only to train children "for their station in life;" the little girls for domestic service, the boys for useful errand-boys or day-labourers. We are far enough yet from practically realising that there is a culture for human spirits quite independent of poverty or wealth. "Learning and work" have not always been considered incompatible. Moreover, if the superiority of the upper classes depend upon the ignorance of the lower, it will be exceedingly shortlived. There are, of course, voluntaries who have a far nobler estimate of what popular education should be: the prospectus, *e.g.*, of the Homerton College Training Schools is every-way what it should be. But how many of our ordinary supporters of day-schools would be willing to sanction, even for girls, "book-keeping, geometry, mensuration, algebra, drawing, mapping, and vocal music?" Yet to teach a child less than, with due diligence, he could learn, is not only absurd but demoralising; and when he is made to feel that his compulsory idleness and incapacity are inflicted on him because he is poor, he acquires a bitter hatred and contempt for those above him in temporal circumstances.

To conclude, there are two ways in which, as Mr. John Stuart Mill has so admirably shown, we may seek to benefit "the masses." We may train them (or rather try to train them) to dependence, or to self-reliance—we may patronise them, or we may teach them how to rise above the need of patronage. The Government plan, as carried out by learned and experienced inspectors whose influence extends over the whole country, seems nearest allied to the latter of these two modes. Voluntarism, without inspection, left especially in country districts to very inexperienced and narrow-minded people, is strongly suspected to be attempting the former. If it be, its case is so utterly desperate, so hopelessly at variance with the laws of human nature and the tendencies of society, that all who are not committed to it, and many of those who are, will be perfectly sure that whatever goes into the manger the dog must come out.

I am, Sir, yours very truly,

WILLIAM KIRKUS.

Hackney, N.E., January 27, 1860.

THE BUILDERS' STRIKE.—According to the statement made at the last weekly meeting of delegates, 2,300 skilled workmen are still out of work, and last week, the twenty-sixth of this unhappy struggle, they received a dividend of 4*s.* each. The "conference" have issued a new appeal to the working classes, signed by their secretary, calling for further support, to enable the men on strike to continue their resistance to the "document."

Foreign and Colonial.

FRANCE.

THE TREATY OF COMMERCE.

The *Constitutionnel* publishes several articles of the commercial treaty between France and England, which are as follows:—

On and after the 1st of July, 1860, the import duties on cotton and wool will be suppressed.

English pit coal and coke will be subjected to the same duty as in the Belgian tariff.

After October, 1860, a duty of 7½ will be substituted for the actual duty on iron.

From December, 1860, the duties on the importation of machinery will be diminished.

From January, 1861, the duty on sugar will be reduced.

From June, 1861, the prohibition on the importation of threads, tissues, and hemp will be replaced by a duty not exceeding 30 per cent.

From October, 1861, all remaining prohibitions will be abolished.

The advantages granted to France by the treaty will be stated shortly.

According to the *Patrie* the import duty on French wines will be reduced in England from 150 to 30 per cent. Silk will be admitted free.

M. Rouher, Minister of Commerce, &c., has been named Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour. The *Moniteur*, in announcing the nomination, states that the honour was conferred on him as a mark of the high approbation of the Emperor for the eminent services of the Minister. He has addressed a circular to all the Chambers of Commerce in France, explaining the advantages which the intended reform of the tariff will confer on the country. Mr. Cobden will leave Paris for Cannes on the 30th instant.

The Emperor has ordered a medal to be struck at the Paris Mint to perpetuate the remembrance of the commercial treaty between England and France.

The *Moniteur Industriel*, a Protectionist organ, has published an address to the Emperor, from 176 manufacturers, cotton-spinners, and iron-masters, denouncing the impending changes in the tariff. They assert that the Emperor promised an inquiry, and yet that without giving them a hearing he is about to accomplish enormous changes. They went to Paris 400 strong, to see the Emperor, but they experienced "the painful regret of not being able to make known to the Emperor the real position of national labour." The measure is "an economical and social revolution." They do not contest the Emperor's right to make treaties; but they say he has endangered their existence, and add:—

And where is the remedy when we are bound by treaty? We shall have to do one of two things,—either to undergo the disastrous consequences it produces, or to have recourse to war, and tear it by cannon-shot. Such is the terrible alternative in which we are going to place ourselves.

A letter from Lyons in the *Opinion Nationale* says that the Legitimists and Ultramontanists are openly allying themselves with the Protectionists, and boastingly proclaim that by means of petitions to the Pope, which they will get signed by women and children, they will make the Emperor give way.

Mr. Cobden, since his stay in Paris, has devoted himself with great zeal to the task. He has worked most diligently in the cause, and has given the benefit of his great experience and his intimate acquaintance with the subject. The Emperor was long favourably inclined to the revision of the tariff, but I believe that his conferences with Mr. Cobden contributed powerfully in bringing the matter to an issue.—*Times Paris Letter*. [Mr. Cobden has left for Cannes, in Provence.]

THE POPE'S ENCYCLICAL LETTER.—SUPPRESSION OF THE "UNIVERS."

On Sunday the *Univers* contained the encyclical letter of the Pope to the archbishops and bishops stating the motives of his refusal to accept the advice of the Emperor to give up the Romagna. The following is an extract:—

We cannot abdicate the said provinces without breaking solemn oaths; without exciting complaints and insurrection in the remainder of our States; without weakening the rights of Italian Princes unjustly despoiled of their dominions, and of all princes throughout the Christian world, who could not behold with indifference the introduction of certain very pernicious principles. His Majesty is well aware by what men, what money, and what help revolt at Ravenna and Bologna has been accomplished. Moved with that paternal charity which commands us to watch over the eternal welfare of all, we have reminded him that all must one day be called to strict account before Christ's tribunal, and that all, therefore, must place their reliance more upon mercy than justice.

The letter concludes by demanding the prayers and the aid in every possible manner of the ecclesiastics to whom it is addressed. In the *Univers* a typographical distinction in favour of the Pope as against the Emperor was sustained throughout.

But on Monday the *Moniteur* publishes a decree of the Emperor suppressing the *Univers*, and stating as reasons for this measure the irritating controversy of this journal, by which religious opinion was disconcerted, the country agitated, and the fundamental basis on which are established the relations between the Church and civil society undermined,—this journal having further published doctrines tending to resuscitate pretensions which the ancient French monarchy had always struggled against.

In the Ministerial report in the *Moniteur*, which precedes the decree, it is said the Emperor will show

himself no less careful than his predecessors to make national traditions respected.

The *Moniteur* of yesterday says:—

Government has often deplored the irritating character of the controversy in religious questions. The *Univers* having been suppressed violent articles in reply to its provocations are henceforth without motive and without excuse. The whole press will understand that these grave questions must be discussed with that quietness and moderation which are ordered by the interest of public peace and respect for religion.

The *Correspondant*, a religious periodical, has received a second warning.

M. de Sacy, one of the oldest and most eminent *redacteurs* of the *Debats*, writes to the editor that his conscience will not allow him to agree with a recent article of that journal against the temporal power of the Pope. His main argument is, that if the Pope be not an independent sovereign, he must be a subject of some other Power, and that the Power whose subject he was would be the real master of the Catholic world.

FRANCE AND ROME.

The *Constitutionnel* publishes an article signed by its chief editor, M. Grandguillot, expressing regret that the Romish Court is still bent under the influence of Austria as before the war. The Pope having refused to follow the advice given by Napoleon III., the duty of France is fulfilled. The counsel of France will never be changed into menaces or compulsion. The injustice towards her is great, but it will never cause her to depart from her character of moderation and protection. France would, if necessary, still defend the Pope against anarchy in Rome, but, should the political authority of the Holy Father be everywhere else doomed to experience another crisis, the responsibility would not fall on the generous nation who has done everything for warding it off, and who will always be ready to grant to the Pope that support and assistance which is misapprehended to-day.

The Grand Duchess Stephanie of Baden died on Monday at Paris, in her seventy-first year. She was the adopted daughter of the Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte, and her decease places the French Court in mourning.

Count Pepoli, a Minister of the Provisional Government of Romagna, has arrived in Paris, having passed through Turin on his way from Bologna.

M. Thouvenel has intimated to the Foreign ambassadors that he had been intrusted with the department of Foreign Affairs.

M. Magne has made a report to the Emperor on the budget. He says that the budgets of 1855-56 and '57, are balanced without deficit; that 1858 yields a surplus of 12,000,000 francs; that the floating debt has been greatly reduced; that taxes advance; that commerce has increased eighty per cent. in five years; and that the monetary circulation is enriched by a milliard and five hundred millions.

The project for the annexation of Savoy and Nice to France, which was first advocated by the *Opinion Nationale*, and as to which the semi-official journals in France were instructed to speak with the utmost reserve, is now openly alluded to by them as almost a *fait accompli*. A Montpellier journal, which sometimes has official information—the *Messenger du Midi*—states that Count Cavour is disposed to cede Savoy and Nice to France; and that since his advent to power the *Avenir*, which had been most severely warned by M. Ratazzi, speaks more freely.

SAVOY.

The municipal elections have just taken place at Chambéry. The Ministerial journal presented a list of candidates opposed to the annexation of Savoy to France. The *Courier of the Alps*, a Conservative paper, favourable to the annexation to France, proposed another list of candidates, which obtained two-thirds of the votes.

The Governor of Chambéry has declared that the Sardinian Government never had the intention of ceding Savoy to France.

The following is a Berlin telegram:—

It is asserted that the arrangement between France and Sardinia respecting the cession of Savoy was agreed upon previous to the war in Italy, and was to be executed in case Austria should entirely evacuate Italy.

It was also agreed that Chablais, Faucigny, and Geneva, should be ceded to Switzerland.

The statement made by a Parisian lithographic correspondence, that Prussia had agreed beforehand to the cession of Savoy and Nice, has been denied in reliable quarters.

PIEDMONT AND LOMBARDY.

IMPORTANT CIRCULAR FROM COUNT CAVOUR.

On the 27th January, the Minister for Foreign Affairs forwarded a circular to the Sardinian Ambassadors abroad on the question of Central Italy. In this circular Count Cavour observes that the inhabitants of Central Italy had accepted the Congress with confidence, but important events followed which caused its adjournment. The pamphlet "Le Pape et le Congrès" (of which, without seeking its authorship, no one can contest the importance), the letter of Napoleon III. to the Pope, the speech of the Queen of England, and the speech of Lord Palmerston in the House of Commons, are facts which show the impossibility of the restoration of the ancient rule in Central Italy. It is certain that the Congress will not be assembled for the present. The Government of Central Italy have, under these circumstances, the important duty of giving satis-

faction to the legitimate requirements of the people whose dignity and conduct have so much astonished Europe. The Government of Central Italy being satisfied on their part, wished also to satisfy these provinces by proclaiming the law of Sardinia for political elections. For the present, only announcing these facts, Count Cavour concludes by recalling that he will never fail in his responsibility for the tranquillity of Europe and the pacification of Italy.

The *Daily News* correspondent says:—

Ought Piedmont—will she be able even—to repudiate these new deputies? I do not think she will; her Government does not think so either; and this must be the reason why the sitting accommodation in the Chamber, though ample hitherto, is being increased.

The Marquis Massimo d'Azeglio has been appointed Governor of Milan. M. Ratazzi has left for Nice.

On the 22nd there was a demonstration in honour of Count Cavour. The society of workmen and that of students proceeded with colours flying and torches alight to the Count's hotel. They there, through a deputation, presented to him an address, praying to have the annexation hastened as much as possible. The count did not appear in the balcony, but replied to the deputation in the following terms:—

I thank the young men of the university and my other fellow-citizens for this mark of kind feeling. I shall continue to devote myself entirely to the cause of Italy and of our own nation. There are still many difficulties to overcome. Europe has her eyes on us, and unexpected obstacles may arise. But the common sense and patriotism of the Italian people allow the hope to be entertained that every embarrassment will be surmounted under the able direction of King Victor Emmanuel.

The *Independents* of Turin, which passes for being Count Cavour's journal, says, in its number of the 23rd, that nothing now opposes the Prince of Carignano's assuming the Regency. It also urges King Victor Emmanuel to make a tour through Tuscany and the Æmilian Provinces.

Count Mamiani, Minister of Public Instruction at Turin, has issued a circular to the members of the Supreme Council of Public Instruction, announcing that he will favour liberty of instruction during his administration.

One of the electoral sections of Milan has offered to return Farini, the Governor of Æmilia, for Milan. He has accepted the offer.

The Sardinian troops at Brescia are reported to have received orders to be in readiness to march across the Po, and form the left wing of the Northern Italian army at Rimini.

A public ball was given on the 24th at Milan, for the relief of the emigrants from Venice and the other provinces of Italy subject to Austria. The sale of the tickets produced nearly a thousand pounds.

Count Cavour's visit to Paris has been temporarily postponed.

CENTRAL ITALY.

Baron Ricasoli, in presenting flags to the National Guard of Florence, delivered a long address, in which he said:—

We require great prudence and large forces to preserve our independence. A great deal remains to be done. The annexation of the provinces of Italy to Piedmont is necessary to guarantee Italian nationality—the defence of which has become a common duty.

The *Monitore Toscano* publishes an official explanation of the reasons for the reserve manifested in the decree proclaiming the Sardinian statutes in Tuscany. The Tuscan Government only intended to reserve the organic laws of Tuscany on freedom of commerce and industry, and some other special laws. The National Parliament will decide whether those laws are to cease in Tuscany, or whether, on the contrary, they are to be extended for the common benefit.

Letters from Florence state that the Cardinal Archbishop of Pisa has yielded at last to the remonstrances of the Tuscan Government, and has substituted the name of King Victor Emmanuel for that of the Grand Duke in the prayer in the mass.

The *Modena Gazette* of the 20th publishes various decrees issued by Governor Farini, and countersigned by the Ministers. These decrees are worded "During the reign of his Majesty Victor Emmanuel, the Governor of the Royal Provinces of the Æmilia decrees," &c. The first decree orders the promulgation of the electoral law of Sardinia. The number of deputies for the Royal Provinces of the Æmilia is to be 70, viz.:—Bologna, 12; Ferrara, 7; Forlì, 7; Massa and Carrara, 4; Modena, 10; Parma, 8; Piacenza, 7; Ravenna, 7; Reggio, 8. The second decree orders a new coinage, on the decimal system, to be struck; the silver coins to have the effigy of King Victor Emmanuel on one side, and the Royal arms of Savoy on the reverse, with the following inscription:—"Dio protegge l'Italia."

THE PAPAL STATES.

Letters from Rome describe the Pope as being as resolute as ever, and as resolved to be a martyr. It is said that his "stiff-necked bigotry" has upset all the calculations of his crafty adviser.

Antonelli is powerful enough to banish the Liberals from Court, but not the French, English, and German Ultramontanists. It is from the sympathy of these that the Pope gathers strength and enthusiasm. The fat, torpid, easy, worldly-minded Italian prelates are amazed and disconcerted by the rabid, indiscreet zeal of their Transalpine brethren. They are, however, dragged along in spite of themselves. They are too far committed, too listless and passive, to stem the tide of fanaticism which has been and is urging them to destruction. Half of the State is lost; what remains, were it even tenable, would hardly be worth the holding. The crafty Churchmen begin to despair of compromise; they wonder

whether the Pontiff's own blind obstinacy may not after all prove a sounder policy than all their pliancy and dexterity. Fanaticism is catching, and the whole Court of Rome seems now bent on saving all or losing all.

A body of the Roman nobility, chiefly office-holders under the Papal Government, signed an address to the Congress vindicating the Papal system, and praying for its continuance. But the dissidents were eminent and considerable. Amongst them were the names of Doria, Piombino, Rospigliosi, the richest of the Roman aristocracy, and Tullio, the banker.

Twenty Swiss, eighteen of them having regimental rank, deserted the other day at Perugia. The Papal army is like Penelope's web; it is constantly being made, and then taken to pieces again.

A letter from Rome, in the *Journal des Débats*, says that there the Pope has only some dragoons and the Palatine Guard of a few hundred men. The German recruits only amount to 4,000, and they are at Macerata. The Pope has altogether about 8,000 troops, of whom about 2,000 are Riflemen and Carbineers. Of the 8,000, 4,000 are Swiss, and are at Perugia, and of the remaining 4,000, 2,000 are at Ancona, 1,000 at Urbino, and 1,000 at Pesaro.

Civita Vecchia is still being fortified by the French, who appear to be making every preparation for a permanent occupation.

NAPLES.

Letters from Naples of the 24th instant explain that General Filangieri had definitively tendered his resignation, but leave for six weeks only was granted to him.

The Marquis de Villamarina had been received by the King, who promised to maintain friendly relations with Piedmont, provided that neutrality was mutually observed.

The following is a telegram from Naples, dated Jan. 27:—

General Pianelli has demanded reinforcements. It is stated that the troops on the frontiers are to be increased. A popular manifestation, with shouts of "Viva la Costituzione," has taken place.

Letters of an earlier date say that Padre Prozzo reappeared in the pulpit of Gesù Nuovo after having been silenced.

For two nights, Naples was in a state of half siege, and heavy patrols of police, and in some cases of military, traversed the streets. The Neapolitan Government is greatly alarmed, and sees in every foreigner an agent of Murat.

In Palermo, it is said that the students of the University have uttered cries of "Victor Emanuele!" and "Viva l'Italia!" that the Director of Police, Maniscalchi, wished to close the University, but was opposed by the Rector, the brother of the Minister for Sicily.

"Le Pape et le Congrès" is creating a great sensation in Naples, is well received—enthusiastically so by all who read and think—and is highly approved by many of the more enlightened of the clergy. It is printed secretly. Many hundred copies have been distributed through the provinces.

VENETIA.

Agitation continually prevails in Venetia. In the course of one day seven officers have been attacked and wounded at Verona, and cavalry were ordered to clear the streets. Attempts have been made to hoist the tricoloured flag at Chioggia, Portosecco and Palestrina. Thirty-six individuals have been arrested at Venice for insulting persons promenading in the Piazza de St. Noze while military music was being performed. The *Milan Gazette* speaks of numerous arrests made by order of the Austrian Government at Venice, and estimates the number at about 400. At Verona all the hatters have received strict orders, under a heavy penalty and imprisonment, not to expose in their shop windows, or offer for sale, the Garibaldi hat. Almost all the theatres in the Venetian cities and towns are closed, and the persons connected with them are reduced to the greatest distress.

Addressing the authorities at Venice a few days since, the Lieutenant of Austria, Count Bissengen, used the following language:—

Gentlemen,—Do not give way to the illusions and hopes of the revolutionary party. His Majesty, with whom I had very recently the honour of conversing upon this subject, said to me, "Venice shall never be ceded, nor sold, nor separated in any way from the Austrian monarchy, nor detached from the empire, as long as we have a musket to defend it." Gentlemen, the Government will persevere with resolution in the actual system, in which there is no need whatsoever of change.

It is known by everybody in Venice that this language was used, but the demonstrations against the Government increase, if possible, in boldness and number.

Twenty Finance employes, who quitted Mantua without leave, have been summoned by the Provincial Finance Direction to return to their posts immediately.

A letter from Vienna says:—

The French and Sardinian troops have recently changed some of their positions, so that the former are now nearer the frontier of Venetia. "Powerful French detachments are now in Brescia and Desenzano, and some French cavalry has even been pushed forward to Goito." In Milan a speedy invasion of Venetia is talked of, and the points of attack are to be the districts of Revere, Sermede, and Gonzaga, on the right bank of the Po.

AUSTRIA AND HUNGARY.

A letter from Vienna, of the 26th ult., says:— "Yesterday morning, after the receipt of a telegram announcing the appearance of Sardinian troops at

Mirandola, near Modena, such violent language was used by influential military men that an immediate intervention on the part of Austria appeared probable, but information has since reached me that the Emperor, 'for the moment,' intends to remain a passive spectator of the doings of the non-Austrian Italians."

The Vienna correspondent of the *Times* reports the following grave incident:—

About ten days ago there was a grand military manoeuvre in the Rakosch field, near Pesth, during which a very remarkable circumstance occurred. It being the turn of the Hungarians to make an attack on their adversaries, the band struck up the "Radetzky March." The word of command "Forwards" was given, but not a man moved from his place. Adjutants were immediately sent by the commander to inquire why his order had not been obeyed, and the reply was that the men refused to charge unless the "Radecky" was played. The march in question, which was formerly prohibited, was played, and the Hungarians then charged their opponents with a violence which is by no means usual in sham fights.

Although the Austrian Government hanged M. Kossuth in effigy some eight or nine years ago, it gives the subjoined official notification of his existence in the *Vienna Gazette*:—

In an epistolary manifesto addressed to W. M'Adam of Glasgow, Kossuth triumphantly announces to the world that as soon as his arrival in Italy became known 4,000 Hungarians deserted, and also that many Austrian officers were murdered on the field of battle by their own men. We mention this in order that the generous (edle) Magyar race may know what an infamous action has been imputed to it, and may be able indignantly to disavow it.

It would appear that the expectation that the law concerning the Protestants in Hungary would not be enforced is unfounded, as the *Official Gazette* of Pesth contains an ordinance of the Austrian Minister of the Interior relative to the execution of the decree of the 1st of September concerning that body. The Protestants are enjoined to proceed immediately with the local elections, in order that the synods may be convoked. All the communities must organise themselves conformably to the new law, between the present time and the end of March next. Those who have not done so by that date will cease to be considered as in existence, but will continue to pay the taxes for the schools and churches. "If Count Leo Thusa," writes the *Times* correspondent, "had any idea of the actual state of affairs in Hungary, he would hardly have taken the trouble to write such a long document. A friend who returned from Hungary the day before yesterday states that things are now just as they were at the beginning of the year 1848."

A deputation from Hungary, consisting of some fifty or sixty persons, who represent the Calvinist Superintendencies on this and on the other side of the Theiss and on this side of the Danube, is now at Vienna. They have come to petition the Emperor to suspend his patent of the 1st of September, and that the ancient and legal basis of the Evangelical Church in Hungary may be restored. On the 24th they intended to go in *corpo* to the Burg Theatre, but only a few of them succeeded in getting tickets. The deputation has had two or three interviews with Count Rechberg, the Minister President, but it was not expected they would be able to obtain an audience of the Emperor. It is stated, however, that his Majesty has invited one or two of the Hungarian deputies to visit him in their private capacity.

The conciliation of the different nationalities becomes day by day firmer established. The Croat Club, at Agram, ordered all the Hungarian papers for their reading-room, and excluded the subventioned press of Vienna and Augsburg; in return, the Hungarians subscribe for the Croat and Serb publications in places where there is not a single man who could understand them.

The Bishop of Erlau, Monsignor Bartakovics, has sent the munificent sum of 1,000*l.* English to the fund for building a palace for the National Academy at Pesth, and his chapter has given a like sum. Nothing causes more anxiety to the Austrian Government than to see that the Roman Catholic clergy are every whit as national, and are as earnestly bent on regaining the national treaties, as the rest of their countrymen.

SPAIN AND MOROCCO.

The following is the latest despatch from the Commander-in-Chief:—

ALGESIRAS, Jan. 24, 1:15 p.m.

The enemy attacked the encampment in large force about noon; the Moors were completely driven back by our troops, whose bravery was what it has always been. Our artillerymen decimated skilfully the ranks of the enemy's cavalry every time it attempted to attack our left. The landing of ammunition for the artillery and infantry, and of provisions, continues actively. The weather is fine; the wind from the west. The ships are firing salutes in honour of the Prince of the Asturias.

A despatch from Madrid, dated Jan. 26, says:— "The redoubt before Aduna has been completed, and the construction of two other redoubts is proceeding actively. Large quantities of provisions and ammunition have been disembarked, and preparations are being made for landing the siege artillery."

A letter from Madrid says:—

Negotiations for peace with Morocco are talked of. It is said that immediately after the capture of Tetuan, which place is not expected to make a serious resistance, as it is armed only with old cannon, and as the Moors are suffering from sickness and famine, a treaty of peace will be signed at Tangiers; and that the basis of it will be an indemnity to Spain for war expenses, to be paid in three years; the cession of the tract of land from

Ceuta to the Sierra Bullones, that is the territory already conquered; and a solemn engagement on the part of the Emperor of Morocco to guarantee the Spaniards against the aggressions of the tribes of Unghera, who are to be confined to clearly defined limits. If peace be not concluded, no doubt is entertained that the Spaniards will march against Tangiers.

AMERICA.

Intelligence from New York comes down to the 18th.

Congress had not transacted any business of importance. The House of Representatives, in which the discussions were assuming a very angry tone, had not elected a Speaker. It is hinted that the Republicans have been thinking of substituting another candidate in place of Mr. Sherman. Mr. Douglas is represented as using his influence in the House in favour of a Democratic Speaker. The State Senate of Tennessee had adopted a resolution favouring a union of the anti-Republicans in Congress on the speakership.

A bill had been introduced in the Senate for the suppression of invasion of one State by another. A resolution was also pending for a committee to inquire into the expediency of reducing the ocean postage.

The Supreme Court of Ohio has decided a case brought up from Hocking county, in which the question of right of children of negroes to be admitted into the common schools of the State was decided. The decision of the Court was, that the children of negroes have not that right.

The Governor of Nebraska had vetoed the bill passed by the local Legislature abolishing slavery in that territory.

The bill banishing free negroes from the Missouri State, under the alternative of becoming slaves, which has already passed the State Senate, passed the Legislature, with some amendments, on the 11th.

The Alabama Democratic State Convention proceeded slowly. Mr. Scott, of Monroe, had introduced resolutions asserting the right of slavery in the territories, and of Legislative and Congressional protection.

The Alabama Legislature had passed a bill requiring all spiritualists to pay a license fee of 500 dollars before they can open their circles.

The presidents of the various Virginia railroad companies have issued a call inviting all the Southern railroad companies to meet them in consultation at Richmond, on the 28th of February, to consider the means by which they can best secure, either by direct importation or Southern manufacture, the equipments and supplies for the use of Southern railroads.

The *Washington Intelligencer* of the 16th publishes the protest of the Central or Miramon Government against the ratifications of the treaty arranged by Juarez and Mr. M'Lane.

Advices from Caracas, Venezuela, to the 17th ult. represent that the civil war continued with undiminished vigour, and business throughout the Republic was entirely prostrate. A great battle had been fought in Barcelona, where Sotillo, the insurgent leader, had been beaten by General Ruiz, while Government forces in the west had obliged General Falcon to retreat upon Barinas.

Advices from Mexico by the Tennessee state that the Juarez Government propose to organise a regular army, and disband the volunteers and militia now employed, and also to invite volunteers and troops from abroad. The people along the National road had organised a Vigilance Committee, and hung 100 of the highwaymen who infested the road. Travel is now safe from Vera Cruz to the capital.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Dates from Cape Town to Dec. 22. Trade at the Cape was dull but improving. The Colonial revenue and imports had increased largely during the last quarter, but exports had been considerably less. The money market was very tight. The vine disease will heavily diminish the export of wine next season. All quiet on the frontier, but stock was occasionally stolen. The first electric telegraph at the Cape was in active operation. It is proposed to extend it along the seaboard districts as far as Graham's Town. The local government has ordered a short telegraph line of twenty-one miles to be laid down between Cape Town and Simon's Bay. More emigrants were required in the colony. The John and Lucy, with emigrants for the Cape, was wrecked off South America on the 9th September. No lives lost. Sir John Wylde, late chief justice, was dead. Colonel Rose, R.E., was drowned at Port Elizabeth.

INDIA.

Telegraphic intelligence has been received from Bombay to January 10:—

The Waghers have been severely beaten by Major Nonner. The loss on our side was sixteen killed and forty wounded.

A large force is preparing for China, namely, 12,000 Europeans and 8,000 Sepoys.

The Calcutta mail of Dec. 22nd has arrived. The fire which burnt down Lord Canning's tent was occasioned by a portable stove. On the 16th the camp was expected at Boolundshuhur, and at Meerut on the 21st. His Excellency was to proceed by dak to Roorkee, and return after a few days to Meerut. Mr. Wilson was expected to join the Viceroy's camp on the 18th or 20th. On the 14th he arrived at Allahabad, and held a conference with the principal officials of the station.

In the Punjab the octroi or barrier taxes had been

quietly tripled in the great towns, and the license system adopted in the villages. The result is an addition of 300,000*l.* at once, with a prospect of 200,000*l.* more, without ferment or discontent. The money was wanted; for this Government has been in most serious difficulties.

The Nana, it is now known (writes the *Times* correspondent), died of fever some few weeks ago. Azimoolah, his chief adviser in the Cawnpore massacre, survived him only a few days.

The Sepoys are generally sent to their homes, but their ringleaders, with all the chiefs, are reserved for trial. One or two of them, Mummoo Khan and Jomala Persad in particular, are steeped to the lips in blood. The latter was one of the five who sat upon the raised platform at Cawnpore to watch the massacre; the Nana, Azimoolah, Tania Topee, and Bala Rao being the remaining four. Of them all but one have escaped punishment on this side the grave. The Begum is now the only leader of note remaining, and she cannot have more than 1,500 followers, half-armed, half-fed, and without artillery.

Lord Clyde, in an order of the day, gives a severe rebuke to the medical men in India for neglecting their duty in not protesting against carelessness as to the proper supply of medical *matériel*.

The Madras public has been invited by Government to form a municipality, partly on the elective principle.

CHINA.

Advices from Hong Kong are to December 15, and from Shanghai to December 9.

There is no certain intelligence in regard to the intentions of the Chinese, but it is reported that the fortifications of Peking are being strengthened, and that large numbers of Tartar troops are concentrated on the Peiho. Another report mentions that the Taku forts have been to some extent dismantled, and will be abandoned on the appearance of a large English force.

The rebels in the north of Ngan Hwui have achieved a victory over an Imperialist force through the treachery of a mandarin, whom the Emperor had dubbed "The Loyal Man of his Age," on account of former services he had rendered to the Imperialist cause. Fungpau, the Imperialist commander in this conflict, has been allowed to retire from his post, doubtless in consequence of his non-success. Looking over the series of victories and defeats, the rebels appear to be rather losing ground.

There are reports of the intended establishment at Swatow of British and American Consuls, the latter under the new American treaty, and the former claiming the "most favoured nation" clause under the old supplementary treaty with Great Britain.

AUSTRALIA.

The following telegram has been received in anticipation of the Australian mail—due in London *via* Marseilles on the 5th of February. The dates are:—Aden, January 18th, and Melbourne, Dec. 19th, 1859.

The Victoria Parliament met on the 29th of Nov. The financial statement presented by Government showed a considerable retrenchment in the expenditure. A resolution concerning the Melbourne mint, and a motion for the payment of members, have passed the Assembly. Parliament has been adjourned for the holidays until Jan. 10, and on its re-assembling the Land Bill will be taken into consideration. The Geelong railway has been purchased by Government. Government debentures for one million sterling leave by this mail, together with the sealed minimum price. A mercantile panic prevails, and many failures have taken place; among them Messrs. P. M. Tennant King, W. and G. Pole, and Burge. The Banks are very stringent in making advances. The warehouses are overstocked.

The New South Wales Parliament assembled on the 29th of November. The budget proposed large reductions in the expenditure, and a Government subsidy for a European telegraph.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

Rudio, the accomplice of Orsini, has lately died in the Brazils, whither he had retreated after his escape from Cayenne.

There is talk of a general rising in Bosnia, the Herzegovina, Servia, and Montenegro in the spring of the year.

The *Moniteur* announces that M. Lescarbault, the discoverer of the new planet, has been made a Chevalier of the Legion of Honour.

M. Alexandre Dumas is busy at Milan noting down the memorable events of Garibaldi's life, which will be shortly given to the public.

The Italian papers announce the severe illness which has attacked the illustrious Baron Charles Poerio. His health, which had suffered so much in the prisons of the Bourbon of Naples, is now threatened by typhus fever.

It appears that the Japanese Embassy to the United States will embark from Japan on the 22nd of February, proceeding by way of the Sandwich Islands and Panama. It will consist of two chief Ambassadors, eighteen officials of various ranks, and fifty servants, and will be escorted without delay to Washington.

THE NEW TREATY WITH FRANCE. — The Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, at their meeting on Wednesday, passed a resolution, recording their satisfaction at the principles recently enunciated by the Emperor of the French in his letter to M. Fould, recommending important changes in the commercial policy of France.

Postscript.

Wednesday, February 1, 1860.

YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Lords, in reply to Viscount Duncannon, the Archbishop of CANTERBURY said that the prelates and the Lower House of Convocation had agreed to a bill to be introduced into the House of Commons on the subject of the dilapidations of glebe houses.

Lord BROUGHAM presented petitions from 300 magistrates and landowners in Cumberland in favour of an alteration of the law relating to the transfer of real property. The noble lord obtained leave to bring in a bill founded on a custom prevalent in Cumberland with reference to the transfer of copyhold property, the cost of which transfer did not exceed 7*s.*, and the length of the conveyance was only 200 words.

The LORD CHANCELLOR said that a bill would be brought into the other House on the subject by the Attorney-General.

The House then adjourned.

In the Commons Mr. SPOONER gave notice that he would postpone until that day fortnight his motion on the subject of the grant to Maynooth.

Mr. T. DUNCOMBE gave notice that on Wednesday, the 8th inst., he should move for leave to bring in a bill enacting that at the next elections for members to serve in Parliament for Gloucester and Wakefield the votes of the electors should be taken by ballot.

In answer to Mr. HENNESSY, Mr. CARDWELL said that no change would be made in the system of education in Ireland without due notice, and there was no probability of a bill on the subject.

In answer to Mr. Stansfield, Lord J. RUSSELL said he could give no information with regard to a society called *La Nazione Armata*, in Sardinia, but he had been informed by Sir J. Hudson that there was an armed association projected, at the head of which Garibaldi was to be placed, and he had given his opinion that it was inconsistent with the rights of the monarchy, and had stated that opinion to the King and to Garibaldi. It was entirely a private matter, which was conducted by Sir J. Hudson without instructions from her Majesty's Government, but they had signified their approval of his conduct.

In answer to Lord W. Graham, Mr. S. HERBERT said that the attestation oath of recruits was under the consideration of the War-office.

In answer to Sir A. Agnew, Lord J. RUSSELL said that the British Minister at Madrid was informed that Martin Escalante, a British subject, had been arrested at Cadiz, and on inquiry it was found that he had been guilty of an offence against Spanish law; and though he was detained in prison for several months untried, he was allowed legal advice; and applications had been since made for his release.

In answer to Mr. Danby Seymour, Sir C. WOOD said that the Licensing Bill in India had passed through some of its stages, but was delayed in consequence of the non-reform of the legislative council.

In answer to Colonel Dickson, Mr. S. HERBERT said it was not intended to embody any regiments of militia in place of any that might be disembodied.

BURDENS ON SHIPPING.

Mr. LINDSAY moved for a select committee to inquire into the operation of the burdens and restrictions especially affecting merchant shipping, and of the acts for compensating the families of persons killed by accidents; the Merchant Shipping Act, 1854; the Merchant Shipping Amendment Act, 1855; the Passenger Act, 1855; and the Chinese Passenger Act, 1855. He said that he had obtained a committee of a similar character in March last, the sittings of which were interrupted by the dissolution of Parliament.

Mr. HORSFALL seconded the motion.

Mr. DIGBY SEYMOUR moved, as an amendment, to insert after the word "inquire," the words "the causes of the present depressed condition of British merchant shipping, and how far the same are capable of legislative remedy," and to add the words "and to consider the expediency of giving to the Court of Admiralty an appellate jurisdiction over naval courts and inquiries under the Merchant Shipping Act, and otherwise enlarging the powers of that court in matters relating to merchant shipping," with a view to give the inquiry a wider scope.

Mr. SOMES seconded the amendment.

Mr. R. W. CRAWFORD, who had a motion for a similar committee on the paper, said he should not have interfered with Mr. Lindsay but for his having been requested by a body of merchants of London to bring a motion before the House, and he would now merge his in that which had been moved, although he preferred the terms in which his own motion was couched.

A discussion followed, in which Mr. Clay, Mr. Ingham, Lord Louvaine, Mr. Danby Seymour, Mr. Taylor, Mr. A. Smith, Mr. Liddell, Mr. Cave, and Sir C. Napier took part.

Mr. M. GIBSON thought that the committee might be appointed on the terms of Mr. Lindsay's motion. As to the complaint that English ships were not treated with reciprocity in the ports of France under our existing treaty, exactly the same complaint was made with regard to French ships in English ports. He thought the amendment of Mr. Seymour was

hardly admissible, which would have the effect of passing a resolution that there was such a depression in the British interest as to demand inquiry. He would be no party to any reference to a committee which implied any attempt to reverse the principles on which our commercial system was now founded, and that he believed was thoroughly understood as a condition of granting the inquiry.

The motion, with some verbal amendments, was agreed to.

BRIBERY AT ELECTIONS.

Mr. MELLOR moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend the Corrupt Practices at Elections Act (1854), and to make further provision for the detection and punishment of bribery, treating, and undue influence at parliamentary and municipal elections. It was necessary to resort to more stringent provisions for the punishment of bribery than fine and imprisonment. He proposed to add hard labour not exceeding six months to those punishments in case of misdemeanor under the Corrupt Practices Act, this sentence being in the discretion of the judge who tried the indictment. He also proposed to give an indemnity to either of the parties to bribery who gave evidence sufficient to convict his confederate; and that no person should, in cases of trial for bribery, be allowed to refuse to answer questions on the ground that it would criminate himself, although such answer should not be used against him in a charge of bribery. He sought to make it a misdemeanor for any one to pay any money except to the election agent, all expenses to be paid by him through the election auditor. There was a provision to prohibit the employment of any voter as a messenger at an election.

Lord PALMERSTON, without giving any opinion as to the efficacy of the details of the bill, was willing to allow its introduction. He should hope, with the experience they had obtained, they would be able to devise some more efficacious measure than the Corrupt Practices Act, the operation of which had been tested by a general election. The Government had already intimated that they had the subject under their consideration, with a view to the introduction of a measure.

Leave was given to bring in the bill.

Mr. MELLOR obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend the Election Petitions Act, 1848. Its object was to put a check on frivolous petitions, by preventing their withdrawal except by leave of the House; and to give election committees the power to compel witnesses to give answers which would criminate, accompanied by an indemnity.

Mr. SLANEY obtained leave to bring in a bill to enable a majority of two-thirds of the ratepayers of any parish or district duly assembled to rate their parish or district in aid of public improvements for general benefit within their districts, a certain proportion being before raised by donations and subscriptions.

Mr. HADFIELD obtained leave to bring in a bill enabling the parish of Manchester, and the boroughs of Birmingham, Leeds, Sheffield, and Bradford to be appointed warehousing places.

Mr. SCHOLEFIELD obtained leave to bring in a bill for preventing the adulteration of articles of food or drink.

Mr. J. LOCKE obtained leave to bring in a bill for amending several of the laws relating to attorneys and solicitors practising in England and Wales. It regulated the admission of attorneys, and the mode of their serving their articles.

Sir R. FERGUSON obtained leave to bring in a bill to facilitate internal communication in Ireland by means of tramways.

The House adjourned at eleven o'clock.

LATEST FOREIGN NEWS.

MADRID, Jan. 31.

The steamer Madrid has been run into by the steamer Seine. Great damage was caused by the accident, but no lives were lost.

Latest intelligence received from the seat of war announces that the fortification of the Spanish encampment before Tetuan continued.

PARIS, Tuesday.

The *Pays* of this evening says:—"Numerous deputations from Savoy, composed of persons of high standing, arrive daily in Paris. The demonstration in Chambéry on Sunday last was of no importance."

MARSEILLES, Jan. 31.

The Secretary of the French Embassy at Rome, the Marquis Cadore Larocheffoucault, embarked yesterday, for Civita Vecchia. It is asserted that he is the bearer of important despatches from the French Government to the Pope.

The *Univers*, suppressed in France, will itself henceforward be published in Belgium.

General Fanti retains the superior command of the troops in Central Italy at the same time that he is Sardinian Minister of War. He leaves his staff at Bologna, and in person occupies the War-office at Turin.

MARK LANE.—THIS DAY.

A very limited supply of English wheat was on sale here, to-day. Although the attendance of millers was far from numerous, the demand ruled steady, and Monday's prices were well supported. In foreign wheat—the show of which was good—only a limited business was transacted; nevertheless, importers generally were very firm. Floating cargoes commanded very little attention. The barley trade was steady, at extreme quotations. We have again to report a slow sale for malt, at late currencies. There was a slight improvement in the oat trade. In prices, however, no change took place. Beans and peas maintained their previous value. Flour sold to a moderate extent, on former terms.

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The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1860.

SUMMARY.

If the proceedings of the House of Commons during the past week have been of secondary importance, the sittings of the Upper Chamber have excited even less interest. Having little business at present before them, the Lords have been receiving a great number of petitions against the abolition of Church-rates from the rural districts of England and Wales, and indulging in quiet conversation. The fussy Marquis of Normanby has shown an anxiety as to the alleged cession of Savoy to France which his countrymen are not likely to share. Lord Brougham, who has made at least one speech every night—a proof both of his continued activity and reforming zeal—started on Friday a very interesting conversation on the supply of cotton, and drew from the Colonial Minister the assurance that every encouragement should be given to the growth of that staple in the British possessions. Several measures of law reform have (as is usual) been laid on the table, but the House is almost too wealthy in “noble and learned lords” to hold out the prospect of their adoption. Amongst them is an important measure for facilitating the transfer of real property. The Duke of Marlborough's Church-rate Committee has been re-appointed, with the understanding that its sittings are not to be protracted. His Grace is sanguine enough to hope that out of the score of suggestions—all of them different—of the witnesses examined by the committee, their lordships will see their way to a decision “on this much-vexed question.” Lord Cranworth has set up as a rival to Mr. Dillwyn, having reintroduced his Endowed Schools' Trustees Bill—a measure of limited range, designed simply to embrace such cases as that of the Ilminster trust.

Lord John Russell has been seasonably fortified in his reform task by having been formally intrusted with a petition from some 10,000 citizens of London, 6,000 of whom are registered electors. The presentation of this document has stopped the mouths of those who, because there was little occasion for agitation, were day by day pointing to the popular apathy as a sign that reform was not wanted. His lordship hints that a little more outward pressure would be serviceable; but the only signs of activity are the spirited meetings held under the auspices of the Northern Reform Union in the large towns of Northumberland, Durham, and Yorkshire. The not less persevering Ballot Society have resolved, at a conference of their supporters, that that question shall be introduced separately by Mr. Berkeley, as heretofore, and not as an amendment to the Government Reform Bill. This is a wise decision.

Ecclesiastical questions have extorted a full share of attention during the week. In the Lower House of Convocation, Archdeacon Hale has easily carried a resolution, praying the Upper House “to oppose by all means in their power the passing of a law for the abolition of Church-rates,” and suggesting that they should mutually consult upon some means of settling the difficulties of the question. If the number of doctors will avail, Church-rates will assuredly be saved. But perhaps before Convocation again meets, the Abolition Bill will have been read a second time.

Another and more serious riot in the parish of St. George's-in-the-East has excited indignant but fruitless discussion in both Houses of Parliament. The Home Secretary's remedy for these disgraceful outbreaks is amusing. He proposes “that a body of police shall be stationed outside the church, and that persons who appear to be entering with the intention and design—previously conceived—to create a disturbance during the time of divine worship, shall not be permitted to go into the church. Here is a task for the police!—Sir G. Lewis, however, ventures to suggest that the case is not without remedy. If the matter were left to the discretion of the Bishop, the cause of such ill-feeling might be removed. Or, perhaps, “power might be given to the Crown by order in council, on proper ecclesiastical advice, to modify the rubrics of the Book of Common Prayer.” But the cries of “No, no,” that saluted these suggestions at once drew

from the Home Secretary the response, that he was only expressing his individual opinion, on which he had no idea of acting. Well might Mr. Hadfield remark, “If the Church of England was so crazy and so infirm that if a single brick were taken out of the edifice the whole would come down—if that were the state of the Church, the sooner the people of England knew it the better.” Sometimes a brick is loosened—as in the case of Canon Wodehouse, who has, after long deliberation, resigned all his high preferments because of his conscientious objection to some portion of the Church formularies. But such secessions cannot too soon be smothered up, and no countenance must be given to the demand for Liturgical or any other reform, or “the whole edifice would come down.” “Let well alone,” is the watchword both of the clerical and lay friends of the Establishment—a cry that may serve a temporary purpose, but cannot avert eventual disruption, or even larger changes in the relations of religion with the State.

The diplomatic circular of the new Prime Minister of Sardinia formally advances the Italian question one stage nearer its final issue. Count Cavour informs the Courts of Europe that, as no Congress is for the present practicable, the Governments of Central Italy, “in order to satisfy the legitimate requirements of the people whose dignity and conduct have so much astonished Europe,” have proclaimed the law of Sardinia for political elections. The pains taken to announce this fact clearly indicate the intention of the Government of Victor Emmanuel to receive the deputies thus elected into the Parliament which will shortly be returned by Piedmont and Lombardy. It is worthy of notice that both Count Cavour and Baron Ricasoli still lay great stress upon the “many difficulties to be overcome” before annexation is possible. Whether these difficulties are connected with a possible invasion of the Romagna by Naples, an attempt on the part of the Pope to reconquer his rebellious provinces, the fear of Austrian intervention, or the absence of a complete understanding with France, we are not informed. Meanwhile, Count Cavour proceeds in the path of legality. One of his first acts is to urge upon his sovereign that the treaty of Zurich should be submitted to the approval of the Legislature, whose authority his predecessor in office had ignored.

Every week increases the troubles, but not the wisdom of the Austrian Government. “Venice shall never be ceded, nor sold, nor separated in any way from the Austrian monarchy, nor detached from the empire, as long as we have a musket to defend it”—is the fanatical answer of the head of the Hapsburg house to prayers, complaints, and threats that reach him from that Italian state, now in a state of smothered rebellion. In a few months the Emperor may be glad to accept a pecuniary indemnity for a province which he cannot permanently hold. The inability of Austria to go to war—with Hungary ready to burst into insurrection, and Hungarian troops ripe for mutiny—points to a pacific solution of the Italian question, even should it embrace the independence of the Roman States, and a constitution for Naples.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE debate on the Address in response to the Speech from the Throne has become, of late, a very lifeless formality, save in those rare cases in which it happens to be selected as an occasion for trying the strength of parties. And no wonder. The field of discussion is so wide and various, that it is all but impossible to get to close quarters. Now there is firing here—then there—a shot or two comes from behind some distant cover—a shell explodes where no one cares to observe it—artillery is wheeled up on one side, and, having discharged, artillery is wheeled up on the other, and does the same thing. Then both parties draw off their forces, and the engagement is over. Everybody understands that there is to be no practical issue. Everybody is aware beforehand that there will be little but helter-skelter and irregular speaking—and, hence, except in those cases in which individuals are impatient to let off a new piece, none take active part in the discussion but those to whom routine has assigned a rôle. The mover and the seconder deliver themselves of their well-conned amplifications of the Queen's Speech—the leader of the Opposition makes a running criticism of its several topics—the leader of the House replies—and the ceremony is over.

Usually, the most stirring part of the first night's proceedings consists in the Notices of Motions. On Tuesday se'nnight, this was emphatically the case. There was the notice given by Mr. Brand, one of the junior whips, that on Monday, the 20th of February, Lord John Russell would ask leave to bring in a Bill to alter and amend the laws relating to the representation of the people. There was Sir John

Trelawny's notice touching the abolition of Church-rates. There was the Home Secretary's notice of that now familiar and almost worn-out subject, Reform of the City Corporation. There was notice of Mr. Ayrton's useful measure for repealing certain Acts of Parliament framed for no other purpose than that of worrying Newspapers. There was our old friend, Mr. Spooner, with his Maynooth annual—ditto, Mr. W. Williams, with his Probate duty on landed property. There were several other notices more or less interesting, pointing to matters new and old, and making up altogether a tolerably well selected bill of fare for the first month of the Parliamentary Session.

Then came the trying moment for the hon. mover of the Address, who appeared in the uniform of a rifle-corps officer. The Speaker had read through her Majesty's Speech in a tone and manner as slovenly as the composition of the Speech itself; and had called upon Mr. St. Aubyn. What he did, he did neatly and modestly, both as it regards rhetoric and elocution. To be sure, it was not much—but it was done up nicely, and handed to the House with unaffected ease. The seconder of the motion, Lord Henley, in the uniform of a deputy-lieutenant, was more aspiring and less successful. He commenced with a fulsome compliment to the Government, which was as awkwardly expressed as it was mistimed. He continued with an eulogistic commentary on the career of Napoleon III., which, besides being glaringly out of place, was calculated to introduce into the debate a perfectly gratuitous element of discord. And he wound up with a few sentences allusive to the prosperous condition of the country, which made the evening of his speech much brighter and balmier than its dawn. Mr. Disraeli then presented himself. He was not very happy, because he had nothing very important to find fault with—and as he had very little to say, he took the longer time to say it. It would, of course, have been beneath his own position, as well as unworthy of the occasion, to have criticised the beggarly English which the Cabinet had put into the mouth of their Royal Mistress, otherwise he would have had fine scope for the display of his powers of sarcasm. But the matter of the Speech afforded him but little opportunity for epigrammatic ridicule or condemnation—so he soon abandoned it for the more inviting topics which he had gleaned from Mr. Reuter's foreign telegrams—but only to find that his authority was not very trustworthy. Lord Palmerston followed him, and concluded the debate. He gave, all things considered, a very satisfactory account of the foreign policy pursued by the Government during the recess. The greater part of his speech related to the affairs of Italy. His tone was decided—and evidently commanded the sympathy and approval of the House. Adjourned at half-past seven.

The first business of the morning sitting on Wednesday related to Church-rates. Mr. Packe moved for certain returns from all the parishes of England and Wales, for the purpose of showing where Church-rates have ceased, the average sum collected by rate during the seven years immediately preceding the cessation of the rate, and the sum raised by voluntary contributions since its cessation. Sir G. Lewis suggested the desirableness of compelling Churchwardens to make an annual return of such information, and indicated a willingness to introduce a Bill for the purpose. Sir J. Trelawny then moved for, and obtained, leave to bring in his Abolition Bill, which he brought up before the adjournment of the House. There was then a resumed debate on the Address, founded on the bringing up of the Report of the Committee, in which the only feature worthy of remark was the hurry evinced by Mr. S. Fitzgerald, Under-Secretary of the Foreign-office during Lord Derby's administration, to discuss and condemn the Commercial Treaty with France, and the neat manner in which the Chancellor of the Exchequer combed the hon. ex-official's hair for him. Never did hot-headed partisan throw away his opportunity, such as he had, by puerile impatience, more signally than did Mr. S. Fitzgerald. Sir De Lacy Evans afterwards elicited from Lord Palmerston some information respecting the position of affairs in China, which yields us ground for hoping that the quarrel may be adjusted without further hostilities.

Nothing of deep interest occurred in the House either on Thursday or Friday. The first fortnight of the Parliamentary Session is commonly devoted to the mere initiation of measures, at which stage discussion is as much as possible avoided. The topics which turned up for notice were various—but call for very brief mention in this place. Mr. Dillwyn, it will be seen, obtained leave to bring in his Bill to amend the law relating to endowed schools. It has, we believe, two general principles. It enacts that schools founded prior to the first year of Elizabeth—in other words, prior to the settlement of

the Reformation in England—are not to be legally regarded as Church of England schools, but are to be open, both in teaching and governing, to all denominations. It also enacts that schools founded between the first year of Queen Elizabeth and the first year of William and Mary—subsequently to the Reformation but prior to the Toleration Act—are not to be taken as Church of England schools, unless the will of the founder indicates that such was his intention. In cases in which the Church of England has no legal pre-eminence, a majority of the trustees are to determine what the religious teaching shall be. The measure was brought in and read a first time. So, too, Mr. Hadfield brought in, and got a first reading of, his Bill to amend the Municipal Corporations Act, which proposes to do away with the declaration now exacted from all Town Councillors, that they will not exercise the powers of their office to the detriment of the Established Church.

Mr. Bouverie has been trying his hand on the task of curtailing the privileges of independent members. The usual motion of adjournment from Friday till Monday is made at the commencement of the business for the evening, and is generally taken advantage of by private members to introduce current matters which are either too unimportant for separate debate, or cannot bear keeping until the rules of the House will admit of their being formally brought forward. The opportunity, it must be conceded, is not always judiciously turned to account—but it is found exceedingly useful as a periodical relaxation of business rules which, if rigidly adhered to, would shut out from timely notice many a passing topic of great importance. Mr. Bouverie seems to be of opinion that nothing but Government business is of much interest—and he proposed, therefore, in a speech which was as weak in argument as it was self-sufficient in tone, to do away with this Parliamentary *conversazione*. His lecturing style of address probably went far to defeat his own object—for having pressed his motion to a division, he was defeated by a majority of 118. Some interesting conversation afterwards took place on the Home Secretary's motion requiring seven days' notice before moving for a writ for a new election at Gloucester and Wakefield. Mr. Bright threw out a suggestion, for originating which the *Daily News* takes credit, that boroughs in which corruption shall be formally proved, shall lose their right of returning members for an interval of from seven to ten years—a most valuable suggestion, be the author of it who he may—and he took occasion to denounce as heartily as he could do the terrible bribery which prevailed in Wakefield at the last election. Lord R. Cecil, in the true spirit of exclusive and aristocratic morality, found not a word to say against the iniquity of those who offered bribes, but discovered in the fact that poor men, thus tempted, will accept bribes, a sufficient reason for excluding the whole class from the suffrage. We learn that Government have under consideration a Bill directed towards the prevention of bribery, and also for amending the procedure on election petitions. Sir Fitzroy Kelly, too, is in the field again, and Mr. Mellor has produced a measure on the subject.

The whole business of Friday was despatched before half-past seven o'clock. It consisted almost exclusively of the introduction of Bills—one by Sir G. Lewis, for the better management of highways, which, we are glad to see, was regarded by Mr. Bright as wholly uncalled for—one by Sir C. Wood, to regulate probate and administration with respect to certain Indian securities—and one by Mr. Ayrton, to repeal certain Acts relating to newspapers. On Monday, the Lord Advocate introduced his Bill for the abolition of the Annuity-tax, which we have fully commented upon elsewhere—and a vast deal of time was wasted by a personal matter introduced by Sir J. Pakington, on the motion of the Chancellor of the Exchequer for reappointing the Select Committee of Inquiry into Postal and Packet Contracts. Sir John emerged from the contest he had provoked, in a rather bruised condition. Mr. Bernal Osborne hit him hard, and Sir John's own friend, Sir Stafford Northcote, said in effect, "Serve him right."

SHALL WE HAVE THUNDER?

WELL, to confess the honest truth, we cannot say. That bank of clouds on the horizon looks a little threatening, and the atmosphere has an electric feel in it, as if a storm might be brewing. But the sky is yet open above us. The hush has hardly assumed an ominous character as yet—though the signs are such, here and there, that we should not like to stake our credit on the prediction that there will not be thunder before very long.

Is the Ministry safe? There are some who think not, others who hope not, others, again, who fear not. For ourselves, we frankly confess

that we have no ground for a decided opinion on the matter. We indicated, last week, the quarter from which the storm would probably come, (if it came at all,) which would try its strength—and we discern some symptoms of gathering blackness in that part of the political firmament. But we think they are as likely as not to pass away. At any rate, we shall not be kept in suspense very long. Monday next will probably disclose the crisis, if there is to be one. And if there be one, it will be of no ordinary character.

On Monday, the Chancellor of the Exchequer has undertaken to lay before us his financial statement for the current year. It happens that that statement will bring under consideration several political questions of the first importance. It will, of course, involve the whole question of the Commercial Treaty with the Emperor of the French. But that Treaty cannot be discussed simply on its own merits. It is well known that it is intended as a bond of alliance between England and France, and, if sanctioned, will determine the character of our continental policy for an indefinite period. Close amity with France presupposes comparative indifference to Austria—a reversal of the traditional maxims and modes of thought cherished by the Conservatives, in relation to our external European policy, for a long succession of years past. It draws after it, in no less logical sequence, a virtual exclusion of the Pope from his lost territory, and the imminent risk to him of losing the Marches—possibly, Rome itself—with the Legations. This is "gall and wormwood" to the Ultramontane adherents of the Papacy. But this is not all. The temporary loss of revenue from the large reduction of duty on foreign wines, will scarcely admit of prosecuting the expensive undertaking recommended by the Coast Defences' Commission—and Parliament will probably have to choose, on Monday night, between cheap French wines, and dear fortifications. So that the Chancellor of the Exchequer will have to encounter three elements of opposition combined—the traditional leaning towards an Austrian continental policy, the Roman Catholic leaning towards the Pope, and the military and tax-spending leaning towards a gigantic coast line of fortifications. It has an ugly look about it—but we are not convinced that it will turn out quite so formidable as it seems.

If Ministers are themselves united—which we have heard denied—we see no sufficient reason for giving way to alarm. And, surely, they are not blind enough to quarrel among themselves, with such an unsettled prospect before them as that we have described. It is rumoured that the ground of difference in the Cabinet relates to the question of the Coast Defences. We can hardly credit the rumour. We cannot, without doing violence to our opinion of their prudence, believe that they would have signed the Commercial Treaty with the Emperor of the French, by which they propose to surrender immediately some two millions of annual revenue, if they had not made up their minds to discourage an outlay of ten millions sterling on military strongholds, of no earthly use but to keep off an imaginary French invasion. We shall see. But till we do see, we will not do them the discredit of supposing that they are divided, even in opinion, on so self-contradictory a policy.

But if, as we hope, they are at one among themselves on this point, we think they may fairly and trustfully challenge the House and the country for a verdict of approval on their general policy. Austrian ascendancy on the Continent, however it may have commended itself to the Court and the higher aristocracy, as worthy of preference by British statesmanship, is not likely to find favour with the constituencies—nor do Englishmen generally, nor Scotchmen at all, desire to restore to the Pope his lost dominions in Italy. As to the expenditure of ten millions on stone walls and earthworks, with a view of keeping out the French, whose produce and manufactures we are taking steps to let in, we are convinced that the people are in no such hurry as are the contractors and their military patrons, who look to profit by the job. The recent policy of Ministers, taken as a whole, is substantially approved by the whole country. Therefore, although we are inclined to think that a majority of the present House of Commons might have preferred a less friendly connexion with France, and a greater outlay of taxes on defensive works, we are tolerably confident that they are so instinctively aware of the weight of public opinion against them as will make them cautious of upsetting the Ministry on ground so unfavourable to any permanent triumph of their own.

For, after all, what would they do if they could succeed in obtaining a hostile vote? The Ministry, looking at the vast issues at stake, would not be justified in resigning. They would have to choose between eventual and, perhaps, not far distant war with France, which would most likely result from a contemptuous rejection of

the Emperor's pacific policy, and an appeal to the people. At this critical moment of European history, what would be the result of throwing the guidance of our foreign policy into the hands of Lord Malmesbury and Mr. S. Fitzgerald, who deprecate too close an understanding with France? What, but an immediate return to irritation and alarm, sure to ripen before long into collision and hostility? Could Napoleon, after having braved the strong prejudices of his own subjects, both Papal and Prohibitionist, by the diplomatic act whereby he links his interests and objects with our own, endure to be thrown back upon his own unaided resources, and made to meet the danger of his position as a betrayed and deserted Sovereign? It is not likely. The only chance left open to him of recovering his balance would be war with England—and none but madmen would deliberately force him upon that chance. Ministers would be shrinking from a manifest duty to their country, were they to resign the reins of Government into Conservative hands in consequence of a defeat on so vital a question. They would, of course, choose the alternative of dissolving Parliament—and we can pretty well guess how a General Election, taken on their present fiscal and foreign policy, would strengthen their hands. "Austria, the Pope, and National Defences," would not be a popular cry to fight with.

We conclude that all parties in the House are fully aware of the consequences which must follow any defeat of the Government on Mr. Gladstone's financial policy—and, therefore, we do not anticipate such defeat. We shall have a storm, perhaps—possibly, a good deal of thunder—but no bolt will strike down the Ministry, much less reverse the current of their foreign policy.

THE POPE'S ENCYCLICAL LETTER.

IN reading the Encyclical Letter of Pius IX., addressed to all Patriarchs, Primates, Archbishops, Bishops, and others in communion with the Apostolic See, we seem to have stumbled upon a forgotten page of Sismondi, or of Hallam's History of the Middle Ages. There is about it the same black-letter verbiage, a cool assumption of infallibility, and a tone of lofty distinctness, which not only matches it with any of the Papal missives issued from the Vatican any time these last six centuries, but exhibits the ludicrous unfitness of the Romish hierarchy to meddle with mundane affairs. Bearing date as recently as Jan. 19, this letter is the Pope's public response to the advice of the Emperor Napoleon that he should renounce all claim to the allegiance of his rebellious provinces. To that demand the reply has not yet been published, but the Pope himself supplies the substance of it:—"Without any delay We replied to the said emperor, and out of the apostolic liberty of Our soul We clearly and distinctly told him that We could not in any way whatever accede to his advice, for the reason that such advice involved insurmountable difficulties for Our dignity and that of the Holy See; considering Our sacred character, and that the right of the Holy See did not appertain to the dynasty of a royal family, but to all Catholics."* It would seem that His Holiness was not entirely devoid of hope that his appeal would produce some effect upon the "most serene Emperor," as he conjured him "in the name of the Church, and out of regard to his own welfare and his usefulness in the world, that he would completely relieve Our apprehension;" at the same time taking occasion to remind "the eldest son of the Church," "that we must all one day render a strict account before the tribunal of Jesus Christ, and be subjected to most severe judgment, and that therefore we ought all to do the utmost in our power to deserve mercy rather than justice."

That this solemn remonstrance did not produce the desired result, the issue of this encyclical letter to the Bishops, &c., of the Romish Church is sufficient evidence. The Pope now appeals from the Emperor to "the Catholic universe," though it is difficult to say what help will come to him, now that Austria is *hors de combat*. In France, in Austria, in Belgium, and in every Catholic country of Europe, ultramontanism has so entirely alienated the intelligent classes by its monstrous assumptions, greedy hankering after temporal power, and unswerving support of civil despotism, that it has lost its moral influence. The system which has for many years been built up by priestly agency to enslave the civil power suddenly crumbles to ruins. By suppressing the *Univers*, the great organ "of a religious party whose pretensions were every day becoming in more direct opposition to the privileges of the State," the Emperor Napoleon has shown that he stands in no fear of the Catholic clergy, feels himself strong enough to brave their opposition, and that he will permit no encroachment on his rights as a civil ruler.

The arguments of the Papal letter-writer

* We follow the typography of the *Univers*.

betray the utter weakness of his case. To his assertion that it "has been given to the Roman Pontiff, in order that, not being subject to any civil power, he may exercise in complete liberty, and without hindrance throughout the universe, the supreme charge of the Apostolic Ministry, which has been divinely intrusted to him by Christ our Lord," his Imperial correspondent might reply that this sacred mission must evidently be best discharged by relieving him from all responsibility as a secular ruler. The prevalence of this opinion, even amongst the spiritual subjects of the Pope, is but another proof of the growing conviction throughout Christendom of the necessity of separating spiritual from temporary authority. Thus "A Roman Catholic" writes in the *Times*, "I have long felt that the words of our blessed Saviour, 'My kingdom is not of this world,' have special reference to the position of the vicar of Christ, and in this opinion, be it right or wrong, I am in harmony with many, both of this day and of the past." It has so long been the boast of Romish prelates and priests, even those of the present day, that the Catholic faith would exist and flourish without the aid of temporal authority, that one might expect them to rejoice, rather than mourn, over the prospect of coming emancipation.

At all events, the chances of a continuance of the temporal power of the Papacy are every day diminishing. The Imperial pamphlet, in the suggestion that the dominions of the Pope should be bounded by the Eternal City, only foreshadowed the inevitable course of events. It may be that his Holiness has sufficient sagacity to see that concessions on his part would not avert that issue. Indeed, he truly enough remarks in his letter, "We perfectly understand that the victory which may be gained by the rebels of Emilia would be an incentive to native and foreign disturbers of the peace in our other provinces to commit the like crimes." The Pope has in this case proved a true prophet. Already the semi-official *Constitutionnel* disclaims all responsibility on the part of France "should the political authority of the Holy Father be everywhere else [but in Rome] doomed to experience another crisis,"—a style of language inviting rather than dissuading the other provinces of the Pope from throwing off his yoke. "France would if necessary still defend the Pope against anarchy in Rome,"—this is the only engagement that the Paris journalist hints at as likely to be now made by the Emperor who, if report be true, gives expression to his own views in this authoritative article.

To secular minds this obstinate adherence of a sovereign to antiquated rights is incomprehensible. But the Encyclical Letter unmistakably reveals a "stiff-necked bigotry" and an inability to comprehend the plainest political facts, that is more difficult to deal with than armed legions. When Pius IX. talks of violating his "solemn oaths" by giving up his authority over the Romagna—describes as "a criminal rebellion" that freedom which came of the withdrawal of the priestly rulers—speaks of "an immense majority of the people" as being "everywhere thunderstruck by these risings, which to them were perfectly unexpected, and which they are in no way whatever disposed to adhere to"—identifies himself at this time of day with the banished Dukes, "who have been unjustly deprived of their dominions"—alternately whines at and threatens the Power on whose bayonets he has for years been comfortably supported—and at last ignores his Imperial Protector, and appeals to that figment,—"the Catholic Church at large":—we see before us the crazy, infatuated priest who is bent on saving all or losing all, though he is no doubt sincere in his expressions of willingness to suffer the severest trials rather than abate one jot of his supposed Divine rights.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

The polling at Pontefract yesterday resulted as follows:—

Childers (Liberal)	320
Waterhouse (Conservative)	257
Majority	— 63

The nomination of a candidate to represent Beverley in Parliament, in the stead of Ralph Walters, Esq., unseated for bribery, took place on Monday. The polling took place yesterday with the following result:—

Walker (Conservative)	596
Gridley (Liberal)	473
Majority	— 123

Two candidates were yesterday nominated for Scarborough. Lieut.-Colonel Caulfield, who said he was a supporter of the ballot, and desired an extension of the suffrage, and Mr. Dent, who said he should support Lord Palmerston, as he had done before, when he was right, and oppose him when he was wrong. The show of hands was in favour of Mr. Dent, and a poll was demanded, which was to take place this day.

Parliamentary Proceedings.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

On Thursday, petitions were presented by Earl de Grey, from the Rev. Edward Wilson, Vicar of Nocton, Lincolnshire, against the abolition of Church-rates; and by Lord Clinton, from the parishes of Culmstock and Wear-Gifford, and from the clergy of the deanery of Tiverton, in the county of Devon, against the unconditional abolition of Church-rates.

The Lord Chancellor laid on the table a bill for the regulation of Masters in Chancery, which was read a first time.

On Friday, further petitions against the abolition of Church-rates were presented. Lord PORTMAN presented a petition against the abolition without an equivalent, and intimated that he had a number of petitions on the same subject, which he could not at present lay on the table, because the petitioners stated that they had heard with great consternation that a bill for the abolition of Church-rates was before their lordships, whereas there was no such bill as yet before them.

SPECIAL SERVICES IN THEATRES.

Viscount DUNGANNON gave notice of a motion calling the attention of the House to the irregularity on the part of certain clergymen of the Church of England in celebrating divine worship at Sadlers' Wells and other theatres.

ENDOWED SCHOOLS TRUSTEES BILL.

Lord CRANWORTH re-introduced the bill of last session in reference to endowed school trusts, in which he said some slight alterations had been introduced in the minor details, and which he proposed to move the second reading of on Thursday week next.

The bill was read a first time and ordered to be printed.

TRANSFER OF REAL PROPERTY.

The Lord Chancellor laid on the table a bill in reference to the law regulating the transfer of real property, which was read a first time.

INDIAN PRIZE MONEY.

In answer to the Earl of Ellenborough, the Duke of ARGYLL stated it was proposed that all property taken during the suppression of the mutiny in India should be distributed in the usual manner among the army engaged, but an exception would be made with regard to the property of those natives who were proved to have continued loyal during the rebellion; and the amount of that property would be deducted from the whole amount to be divided. There was some difficulty in making an estimate of the amount to be distributed.

COTTON AND SLAVERY.

Lord BROUGHAM moved for a return of the quantity of cotton imported into this country from different parts of the world up to December last, and took occasion to complain of the heavy duties levied on this article of import. He urged the encouragement of the import of cotton from Africa and Jamaica, with a view to superseding the slave-grown produce of America.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE said that every encouragement would be given to the growing of cotton in the British possessions.

The Bishop of Oxford, Lord Overstone, and Earl Grey also pressed the advantage of supplanting slave-grown cotton by the import of that grown in Africa and elsewhere.

THE ANNEXATION OF SAVOY.

The Marquis of NORMANBY put a question to Earl Granville with regard to an alleged cession of the Duchy of Savoy to Sardinia to France, which was reported in several of the French papers, and inquired if such an intention was within the knowledge of her Majesty's Government?

Earl GRANVILLE said that the Government had no information of any such negotiations having been carried on between France and Sardinia. He added that the Government of France had long been acquainted with the opinions of her Majesty's Government with regard to such an arrangement.

LAW REFORM.

In the House of Lords, on Monday night, On the motion of Lord Chelmsford, a bill for regulating the mode of procedure against persons charged with indictable offences was read a first time.

The Lord Chancellor brought in several bills for the consolidation and assimilation of the criminal law of England and Ireland, which were read a first time.

ST. GEORGE'S-EAST.

The Bishop of LONDON asked what steps her Majesty's Government proposed to take to put a stop to the very serious disturbances which have recently occurred in the parish church of St. George's-in-the-East.

Lord GRANVILLE was as yet unable to state what would be the exact steps taken by the Government; it was, however, his decided opinion that it was the duty of the Government to use every means to preserve the peace.

CHURCH-RATE COMMITTEE.

The Duke of MARLBOROUGH moved for the re-appointment of the same select committee as last year to inquire into the present operation of the law and practice respecting the assessment and the levy of Church-rates. He considered the evidence of so important a character as fully to justify the reappointment of the committee. It was not his wish that the committee should prolong its labours to an indefinite time, so as to interfere with any decision which might be come to by their lordships respecting Church-rates. In a short time, the

labours of the committee would be completed, and then their lordships would have an opportunity of considering its report, and of arriving at a decision upon this much-vexed question.

The motion was agreed to.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

CHURCH-RATES.

At the morning sitting on Wednesday,

Mr. PACKE moved for a return of all the parishes in England and Wales where Church-rates had ceased to be collected, what sum was collected by a rate to keep the church in repair during the last seven years before the rate ceased, and what sum had been raised by voluntary contributions for that purpose since the rate ceased.

Sir G. LEWIS said, without wishing to oppose the motion, that great delay and trouble had arisen in obtaining returns relating to Church-rates. He apprehended that, whatever the ultimate decision of Parliament might be on the general question, Church-rates would still be made in some places, and he thought a short act of Parliament might be passed making it compulsory on churchwardens to make an annual return of the kind indicated in the motion, to be laid before Parliament.

Mr. PACKE said it was most important that the House should be in possession of the information specified in his motion, having regard to the discussion which might be expected to take place on the second reading of the bill, for leave to bring in which the hon. baronet the member for Tavistock (Sir J. Trelawny) was about to move.

Lord J. MANNERS asked if the right hon. baronet, the Home Secretary, would be disposed to introduce a bill of the kind to which he had alluded?

Sir G. LEWIS said he had not stated that it was his intention to introduce such a bill. He had mentioned the subject to the House rather with the view of ascertaining whether such a measure would be acceptable, and if so, he should be prepared to propose it. (Hear, hear.)

The motion for the return in question was then agreed to.

Sir J. TRELAWNY, pursuant to notice, moved to bring in a bill to abolish Church-rates. He stated that the measure was the same as he introduced last year, and he trusted his motion would not be opposed.

The motion was agreed to.

The bill was subsequently read a first time.

APPEAL IN CRIMINAL CASES.

Mr. M'MAHON moved for leave to bring in a bill to secure a right of appeal in criminal cases. He explained that it was substantially the same as the one he propounded to the House last year.

Sir G. LEWIS said there was no intention on the part of the Government to oppose the introduction of the bill, but he wished to be understood as not giving the smallest assent to the principle on which it was founded.

The motion was then agreed to.

THE ADDRESS.

On the report on the Address, in reply to the Queen's Speech,

Sir H. WILLOUGHBY protested against that portion of the Address which related to China, and deprecated the hostilities against that country which were threatened. Admiral WALCOTT urged some recognition of the services of Admiral Hope at the affair on the Peiho. Sir J. PAKINGTON was desirous of knowing on as early a day as possible the nature of the proposed changes in our Customs duties which would follow on the commercial treaty with France. Mr. HADFIELD denounced a war with China, and objected to hostilities being commenced without the consent of Parliament. Sir M. SEYMOUR eulogised the gallant conduct of Admiral Hope, and expressed his belief that no other course was now open to this country but an armed demonstration in China.

Lord FERMOY strenuously protested against the delay which was to occur before the introduction of the Reform Bill. He remarked that in her Majesty's Speech no allusion was made to Ireland, and complained of the exclusion of the inhabitants of Ireland from taking a share in the voluntary defence of the country.

Mr. CARDWELL said that Ireland must be considered to be included in the terms expressive of the prosperity of the kingdom. The only reason why volunteer corps were not raised in Ireland was that there was no act of Parliament applicable to the raising of such a force in that country, and as yet no applications on the subject had been received by the Government from Ireland. He announced the intention of the Government to adhere to the principle of mixed education, and also that many important measures relating to Ireland would be introduced this session—among them a Reform Bill, which would immediately follow the introduction of that for England.

Mr. SEYMOUR FITZGERALD, as a free-trader, objected to a treaty founded on a reciprocity of duties. He objected to it as affecting the rights of that House, as opposed to the principles of free trade, and a retrograde movement in relation to those principles. He believed that its object was more political than commercial, and that it was intended as a cover to the actual relations which existed between the Government and that of France. He maintained that, while it was their interest and within their power to hold the most intimate and friendly alliance with France, they would only jeopardise the prestige, honour, and influence of England, as well as the alliance itself, by attempt-

ing to preserve that identity of policy which he believed it was the object of the noble lord to establish. (Hear, hear.)

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER stated that the Government had taken due occasion to recognise the gallant conduct of the troops engaged in the recent hostilities in China. He ridiculed the notion that a gentleman should venture to criticise the terms and objects of a treaty of the provisions of which he was ignorant.

The hon. gentleman did not show why the wine duties were not in the best state, but told us what, if it were true, would be a very high eulogy to pass on a duty which produces some 170,000, or 180,000, a-year. He said that the wine duties pressed upon the rich mainly, if not exclusively. But why is that? Simply because these duties prohibit wine to the poor. The wine duties do not press upon the poorer classes, because the wines never come within their reach. (Hear, hear.) The duty stands like a wall of brass between the poor man and a glass of wine.

Mr. Fitzgerald said he was for an intimate alliance with France, but not identity; he was afraid of identity—

The practical question is, whether we believe there can be, in the nature of things, too close an understanding between the two countries. (Hear, hear.) The hon. gentleman believes there can. To my mind there cannot, because in the nature of the case, in the relations of the two countries, and in the circumstances of Europe, there is hardly any possible contingency in which they could ever be associated in policy, except for objects honourable in themselves and beneficial to mankind. (Cheers.) On no occasion in our own day, or in history, have they ever been combined for a bad object as regards the politics of Europe; and therefore I trust that alliance, as I hope we all do, and wish it may be drawn closer and closer, not only on account of its intrinsic value, but because it contains nothing in itself which can by any possibility be hostile to the interests of the other powers of Europe.

Mr. Gladstone gave a distinct assurance that the treaty could only be of effect by virtue of the consent and approval of Parliament. The treaty was so intimately connected with the general financial scheme of the Government, that he was of opinion that those two subjects should be brought under the consideration of the House at the same time. He therefore proposed to make his financial statement on Monday, Feb. 6.

Mr. HORSMAN thought we could be in too close approximation to France only in one way, which was when that approximation meant separation from the rest of Europe. (Opposition cheers.) The policy of England should be to have amicable relations with all the great powers of Europe, but not to seek a separate or exclusive alliance with any one in particular. (Hear, hear.) He urged the advisability of the immediate introduction of the Reform Bill, pointing out that there were indications of an early discussion on the subject of China—a question which had once proved fatal to a Government of Lord Palmerston; and if any such accident as the fall of the Government was to intervene between the present time and the 20th of February, there would be every probability of another postponement of the settlement of the question of Parliamentary reform, and that at a moment most favourable for its safe and easy adjustment.

Mr. J. EWART believed that the feeling of the country was more in favour of obtaining the fulfilment of the proposed commercial measures than in the passing of the Reform Bill.

Sir DE LACY EVANS inquired when the Chinese question would be debated, especially with reference to the expedition which had been projected, as well as to the proceedings connected with the affair of the Peiho.

Mr. BUCHANAN urged that it should be known on commercial grounds whether we are actually at war with China.

Mr. BENTINCK could not share Mr. Horsman's apprehension lest any discussion previous to the Reform Bill should prove fatal to the Government, as he saw no such absolute necessity for their retention in office.

Mr. E. JAMES joined most earnestly in the wish expressed by several gentlemen, that Government should introduce, at an early period, the proposed Reform Bill, always supposing that the Cabinet was agreed upon its provisions.

Lord PALMERSTON said the Government had adopted the course they thought, on the whole, the most convenient. He believed that ample time would be found to discuss the Reform Bill if it was introduced no later than the time fixed. With regard to China, papers would soon be laid before the House, and then would be the time for the discussion of the subject. As regarded the late transactions with China, it could not be said that we had been at war with that country. There had been no formal rupture between the two nations since the signing of the treaty between them. If the treaty had been ratified, the relations of the two countries would have been on a more satisfactory footing; but that not being the case, we were now in the same position as before the conclusion of the treaty, and there was no such interruption of commercial relations as would follow a regular declaration of war.

The Address was then agreed to, and the House adjourned at a quarter past three.

ST. GEORGE'S-IN-THE-EAST.

On Thursday, Mr. BUTLER presented a petition from the vestry of St. George's-in-the-East, relative to the disputes with the Rev. Bryan King, and praying the House that some means might be devised whereby the existing defects in the discipline of the Church of England might be removed, and power given to the laity to interfere by some cheap and summary process for the redress of

grievances to which they were at present liable from the want of any sufficient means to restrain or remove an erring or wrong-minded incumbent of a parish. (Cheers.)

In answer to a question by Mr. Danby Seymour, as to whether the Government intended to introduce any measure to prevent such occurrences as have recently taken place in the parish of St. George's-in-the-East and other places,

Sir G. C. LEWIS said the objections of the parishioners in the cases he knew of did not involve any question of doctrine, and the Government did not intend to bring in any bill on the subject.

A VICTIM OF NEAPOLITAN DESPOTISM.

Mr. T. DUNCOMBE presented a petition from Giovanni Porpa, of St. James's-street, Pall-mall, a Neapolitan by birth, but a naturalised subject of Great Britain, complaining, that his uncle, a wealthy merchant, having died at Naples in 1858, eighty years of age, and enfeebled in body and mind, three Jesuit priests visited him in his last moments, and pretended that he there and then made a will in favour of their order, but which will was in reality a forgery. The petitioner has a brother residing at Naples, but he being a priest dared not act with energy, there being at this moment above 200 priests in prison without trial, merely because they will not make a false submission to the Church in all matters temporal and political, as well as spiritual. English residents at Naples, friends of the petitioner, had interposed in favour of the rights of himself and relatives, but without success. He, therefore, as a naturalised British subject, prayed the intercession of the British Crown and Parliament to obtain him justice. (Hear, hear.)

LORD MELVILLE AND THE RIFLE CORPS.

Lord ELCHO inquired whether certain expressions depreciatory of the volunteer force, used by the commander of the forces in Scotland, were approved of, or had been noticed by the War-office?

Mr. SIDNEY HERBERT said that the words in question were used by Lord Melville; the Commander-in-Chief had written to him on the subject, and he had expressed his regret at having used them.

ENDOWED SCHOOLS.

Mr. DILLWYN moved that the House should go into committee, in order that he might propose a resolution with regard to endowed schools.

The House accordingly went into committee.

Mr. DILLWYN moved that the chairman be instructed to bring in a bill to amend the law relating to endowed schools. He did not intend on that occasion to make any statement as to the nature of the bill, except that he had carefully considered the arguments of the Opposition last year, and had modified the bill in a way which, he hoped, would render it more generally acceptable. (Hear.) If allowed to introduce the measure he did not intend to press the second reading for a month or six weeks, so that the House might have full time to consider it.

The motion was agreed to, and the House resumed.

QUALIFICATION FOR OFFICES.

On the motion of Mr. HADFIELD the House resolved itself into committee to consider the expediency of abolishing subscription to certain declarations as a necessary qualification for offices and employments. The hon. gentleman then moved for and obtained leave to bring in a bill for effecting that object.

THE FRIDAY ADJOURNMENTS.

Mr. E. P. BOUVIER moved that whenever the House meets for business upon Friday it shall at its rising adjourn to the following Monday, unless the House shall otherwise order. The moving of the adjournment from Friday to Monday had caused the growth in the last ten years of a practice of members using this motion for the purpose of bringing forward discussions on questions on which no decision could be come to, while seriously interrupting the regular business of the House. The practice had grown to such a height of abuse that it was necessary to take some steps to put an end to this tendency to turn the House into a mere debating society. The hon. member read a long list of questions put on the motion for adjournment on one Friday evening in April last, which caused much amusement, among them being a notice by Lord Palmerston, "to call attention to the state of affairs on the continent."

There was a great deal of discussion on this subject. Mr. DISRAELI suggested that some understanding should be come to that no subjects but those of a pressing nature should be brought forward on the motion for the adjournment from Friday to Monday; Sir G. LEWIS, that some portion of Thursdays might be given to orders of the day, and an hour of the evening fixed beyond which motions made on going into supply should not be brought on.

Lord PALMERSTON said that, having been quoted as an example of the persons who had taken undue advantage of this custom, he was precluded from voting for a motion which tended to curtail the privilege in question. There were no doubt occasions when this custom might be followed with advantage; and if hon. members would take the present discussion as a hint towards the exercise of discretion in the use of the privilege the object of the motion would probably be gained.

Mr. T. DUNCOMBE suggested that the motion for adjournment on Friday might be taken after the orders of the day, an hour being fixed for that purpose. He protested against the right of making

motions on going into supply being taken away. He hoped this motion would be defeated.

On a division the numbers were:—

For the motion	...	48
Against it	...	166
Majority	...	—118

NEW WRITS.

On the motion of Mr. COLLINS it was agreed that in all cases where the seat of any member has been declared void by an election committee on the ground of bribery, no motion for the issuing of a new writ shall be made without two days' previous notice being in the votes.

ELECTORAL CORRUPTION.

Sir G. C. LEWIS moved that no motion for issuing any new writ for the city of Gloucester or the borough of Wakefield should be issued without seven days' previous notice.

Mr. E. JAMES urged that the Government should take some action on the result of the commissions of inquiry in those cases which had taken place.

Mr. BRIGHT said that in another case the House had decided that persons who had given evidence before the commission could not be disfranchised. But probably it would not be thought desirable to disfranchise such large towns as Wakefield or Gloucester; but he thought that the case might be met by a considerable suspension of the franchise of those boroughs—say for some period not exceeding ten years.

I would have them, in short, debarred from the exercise of that privilege for a period so long that the whole country might be able to point to them as black spots—not, indeed, spots in reality one bit blacker than others, but more unfortunate in this respect, that their blackness had been found out. ("Hear, hear," and a laugh.)

He happened to know the extent of the offers of bribery in Wakefield, and yet acceptance of bribes had only been brought home to 100 of the electors out of 800. At the same time even that fact indicated great moral corruption in the constituency and among the leading men of the borough. Such a state of things might be prevented if the leading men in a constituency came to a resolution to support no candidate who used other than legal means at an election—a course which had been taken with success at Rochdale. The only real remedy for bribery was the ballot. (Cheers.)

Mr. MELLOR denied that the commissioners could give an indemnity to any voters who came before them against disfranchisement.

Lord R. CECIL was afraid that the root of bribery was to be found in the extension of the franchise to a class of persons who were so poor as to be capable of being bribed. Under the ballot bribery would be as great as now; voters probably accepting bribes, and then voting against the briber.

Mr. COLLINS suggested that one mode of preventing bribery would be to make the ratepayers of boroughs pay the expenses of petitions against returns on the ground of bribery.

Sir G. C. LEWIS said that the report of the Gloucester commissioners condemned the provisions of the Corrupt Practices at Elections Act, which had utterly failed to prevent bribery. The Government had under consideration a bill directed towards the prevention of bribery, and also for amending the procedure on election petitions.

The motion was then agreed to.

SAVINGS BANKS.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved a resolution in committee relating to amendments in the law which governs savings banks and friendly societies. He proposed by the bill to give an absolute title to restitution of all sums, principal and interest, used by the Government to savings banks and friendly societies. The Government owed to these bodies a considerable sum, about 2,000,000, which is nowhere stated in the public debt, and he proposed that an exact statement of this amount should be yearly rendered. A third object was to amend the management of the funds of savings banks, the details of which proposition he would postpone. Then he proposed to limit the power, now absolute, of the Chancellor of the Exchequer over the 39,000,000, invested in savings banks—a power which now enabled him to create a new public debt without the consent of Parliament. The last object he had in view was to bring the whole transactions of the Chancellor of the Exchequer with regard to the funds of savings banks periodically and regularly before Parliament. If the resolution was agreed to, he would give six or seven weeks for the consideration of the bill which would be founded on it.

After a short discussion the resolution was agreed to.

The House adjourned shortly before nine o'clock.

BANKRUPTCY LAW, &c.

On Friday, the ATTORNEY-GENERAL gave notice for the 3rd of February of the introduction of a bill to amend the laws of bankruptcy and insolvency; and also for the 17th February of a bill for the amendment of the law relating to the transfer of real estates.

Sir F. KELLY gave notice of the introduction of a bill for the prevention of bribery on the 9th February.

In answer to Mr. Maguire, Mr. J. FITZGERALD said a bill to amend the law of landlord and tenant in Ireland was matured and ready.

Mr. LAING could not give any idea of the anticipated increase in the Post-office revenue, consequent on the additional penny charged on newspapers to Australia. It was not intended to remove that additional impost.

In answer to Mr. Bentinck, Mr. M. GIBSON said there was no intention of introducing a measure in reference to railway accidents.

SUNDAY RECREATION.

Sir J. TRELAWNY gave notice of the following resolution for Thursday, the 9th of February:—

Select committee to inquire whether any hindrances exist to the enjoyment of Sunday as a day of rest; and whether, due regard being had to existing regulations for religious observances and conscientious opinions of the public, it is in the power of Parliament to provide, or of this House to recommend, further facilities for promoting the healthful recreation and improvement of the people, by placing institutions supported by general taxation within reach of the largest section of the taxpayers, at times and seasons when, by the ordinary custom of trade, such persons are free from toil.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON THE MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT.

On the motion for adjournment to Monday,

Lord JOHN RUSSELL, in reply to Mr. Griffith, said he did not believe in the statement that 30,000 French troops were expected at Leghorn; nor had he reason to believe that the French Government had any intention of taking any such step for the purpose of preventing the annexation of the provinces of Central Italy to Sardinia.

In answer to Mr. E. James *apropos* of the Smethurst case, Sir G. C. LEWIS said he should reserve his opinion as to the question of criminal appeals till the bill came on. In the Smethurst case he had duly considered all the facts and evidence, and received the advice on the medical testimony of Sir B. Brodie, and he came to the conclusion to advise a free pardon, and nothing had occurred since to cause him to doubt the propriety of that course. The Chief Baron was of opinion that the prisoner ought not to have been executed, on the ground that the prisoner's object might have been to procure abortion.

Mr. MILNES asked if any negotiations might be entered into with the United States of America for the purpose of preventing the assaults and cruelties committed on merchant seamen in American vessels. Lord J. RUSSELL said the American Government left any negotiations in the hands of Mr. Dallas, the American Minister. An agreement had been entered into with that gentleman as to the remedy to be applied, and a draft of a convention had been made, and when that was ratified a bill would be brought in for the purpose of giving the means of dealing with these atrocities.

In reply to Mr. Bvill, Sir G. C. LEWIS said that the business of the Divorce Court was greater than had been anticipated, and greater demands had been made on the attendance of the common law judges in proportion, and there were some grounds of complaint. The subject had been under consideration, but the Government were not prepared to increase the number of common law judges, or to add a judge in the Divorce Court; but they thought it possible to enlarge the powers of the Judge Ordinary, so as to enable him to dispose of a larger amount of the business of the Court.

The adjournment to Monday was then agreed to.

HIGHWAYS.

Sir G. C. LEWIS moved for leave to bring in a bill for the better management of highways. Mr. BRIGHT wished to know what was the reason for this bill. He never heard that any one was so aggrieved by the present system as to justify the change proposed, which took the management out of the hands of ratepayers. He protested against the disturbance of ancient arrangements—(ironical cheers)—when no one asked for it. He should oppose the measure in its future stages. Mr. G. HARDY said Mr. Bright had appeared in a new and unexpected character, when he professed to stand on "the ancient ways." He hoped he would extend that principle to some other bills besides the present. The hon. gentleman's arguments might apply to highways near the towns of Lancashire, but there was great need of some change of system in the agricultural districts. Leave was given to bring in the bill.

NEW BILLS.

Sir G. C. LEWIS obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend the law relating to mortgages and other dispositions of property belonging to municipal corporations in England and Ireland.

Mr. AYRTON obtained leave to bring in a bill to repeal certain acts relating to newspapers, &c. The bill was the same as that which passed this House last year, but which was too late in the session to pass the Lords.

Mr. BOWYER obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend the law regarding Roman Catholic charities. The House adjourned at half-past seven.

CHURCH-RATES.

On Monday Lord R. MONTAGU gave notice that on the second reading of the Bill for the Abolition of Church-rates he should move its rejection.

SAVOY.

Mr. DISRAELI asked if the papers containing the communications of the Government with that of France, on the subject of the annexation of Savoy and Nice to France, would be produced.

Lord J. RUSSELL said the communications took place in July last; he would consider whether the papers should be produced.

THE RIOTS IN ST. GEORGE'S-EAST.

In answer to Mr. Butler, Sir G. C. LEWIS said that, with reference to the occurrences at the church of St. George's-in-the-East, steps were taken to station a body of police in the church, which force attended for six Sundays, and their presence had some effect in diminishing the disturbances. In the beginning of the new year the withdrawal of the police was ordered, and the disturbances increased, especially on Sunday last. A large body of police was within reach, who were called in, and the riot was put an end to. It had been arranged that the police should be stationed on Sunday next outside the church, and persons likely to cause disturbance would not be allowed to enter. There was no other

means of preventing these unseemly disturbances. It was not intended to bring in a measure with a view to interference with ceremonial observances in churches; but he personally thought it might be desirable to give power to the Crown by order in council to modify the rubric.

Mr. DANBY SEYMOUR moved the adjournment of the debate for the purpose of pressing some more decided steps on the part of the Government to prevent these disturbances. He should introduce a bill on this subject unless something was done.

Mr. HADFIELD urged that the people of England had borne this nuisance of the Romanising tendencies of clergymen of the Church of England long enough, and some remedy must be found for it.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

In answer to Mr. R. W. Crawford, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said it was intended that the financial statement should be made on Monday, and it would include the terms of the commercial treaty with France. It was important that the decision of the House should be taken immediately, and they would be asked to take the question of finance into consideration on the following Thursday. The treaty would not be presented to the House before Monday next.

EXCESS OF EXPENDITURE.

On the report on the motion for supply, Sir H. WILLOUGHBY called attention to the fact that public money was constantly spent without being granted in supply. In 1857-58 a million and a half was spent on the army and navy in excess of supply, thus trifling with the most important right of the House. He asked if there had been any expenditure last year in excess of supply?

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said there had been an excess in the army department for the year 1858-9 of about 400,000*l.* This sum would be asked in supply this week.

Colonel SYKES thought the proper way of remedying the evil was to move a vote of censure on the heads of the departments in which the excess occurred. He should have great pleasure in supporting such a motion.

ANNUITY-TAX (EDINBURGH).

The House resolved itself into a committee, when

The LORD ADVOCATE proceeded to move for leave to bring in a bill to abolish the Annuity-tax in Edinburgh. With respect to Mr. Black's bill for total abolition he would offer no opinion whatever, but it was impossible not to see that the proposal would meet with very strenuous opposition, and that it was doubtful whether it would obtain the consent of both Houses of Parliament. The issue of a contest with the House of Lords might, as in other instances, prove successful, but a number of years would first be spent in the struggle. He would, therefore, suggest a compromise on just and equitable principles. Of the eighteen ministers of Edinburgh three of the charges which they held were collegiate, and though he did not propose to abolish any of them, the House was not, in his opinion, bound to make any provision for the latter; fifteen ministers would still be left, which was a larger provision than any other town in Scotland enjoyed. The seat-rents had greatly fallen off:—

In the five years from 1838 to 1843 they amounted to 5,835*l.*, while in a similar period from 1853 to 1858 they had sunk to 3,235*l.* The surplus derived from that source was formerly 3,400*l.*, but now it only amounted to 1,600*l.* In the old Church, which was under the roof of the High Church, and was one of the collegiate charges, there were only 47 seats let, while there were 641 unlet, and the average attendance was not more than 200 persons. There was only one minister, and out of the 47 seats which were let there was but one which was taken by a parishioner. (Hear.) In the Tolbooth there were 14 seats let, and 634 unlet. He did not propose to abolish the charge of either of these; the present incumbent would retain his right to a share in the Annuity-tax, or in the substitute which by this bill he was going to propose, but they were not bound to provide for future incumbents.

There were at present eighteen ministers endowed by the tax; he proposed to reduce that number, leaving thirteen ministers fully endowed.

The provisions of the act would be carried into effect by an Ecclesiastical Commission, to be nominated by the members of the Presbytery, the Faculty of Advocates, and other bodies. To this commission would be transferred all the property of the Church. This property, made up of seat-rents and the charge on tonnage levied at the Leith Docks, would be allowed to accumulate. At the end of fifteen years, when he proposed that the Annuity-tax should be abolished, the sum from these two sources would amount to 80,000*l.*

During that period of fifteen years the Town Council would be empowered to make an assessment of not more than 10*d.*, nor less than 8*d.* in the pound, to be levied along with, and in the same manner as, the police-rate; 8*d.* in the pound was one-fifth lower than the present tax. The new assessment would be made on all occupiers; this rate he calculated would give a surplus in every year of 14,941*l.*, after paying the ministers at present chargeable on the fund. The annual surplus would be allowed to accumulate for fifteen years.

The exemption from the tax enjoyed by the College of Justice, or the profession of the law generally, would be immediately abolished; they would have no exemption from the new rate.

From the rate of 8*d.* in the pound for fifteen years the accumulated capital would amount to 120,000*l.*; from the rate of 10*d.* in the pound, the highest that could be levied, it would amount to 160,000*l.* This last sum he thought more than sufficient. He proposed, therefore, to fix the sum to be raised at 120,000*l.*, which, with the interest on it, at the end of fifteen years, would be applied to the abolition of the Annuity-tax. This plan, he thought, would not impose a greater burden on the present ratepayers than the

proposition made last session by his hon. friend (Mr. Black).

He hoped that the plan would obtain the support of the friends of the Established Church. He concluded by moving for leave to bring in a bill.

Sir J. FERGUSON said, although it afforded him satisfaction to perceive that the noble and learned lord did not propose to leave the clergy dependent upon voluntary contributions, it appeared to him rather hard that no less than five of those clergymen were to be swept away under the operation of the bill, and swept away, too, at a moment when the sphere of their duties was becoming rapidly extended. (Hear, hear.) There was, however, another feature of the measure even still more objectionable, the proposal to perpetuate the imposition of seat-rents. Those rents were the property of the corporation of Edinburgh, conferred by Act of Parliament when that city was nearly bankrupt, and were so very high as to exclude from many of the churches in Edinburgh the great mass of the poorer classes resident in that city. (Hear, hear.) He hoped that members of the Church of England would lend their aid in rendering the measure as little calculated to work injuriously as possible. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. BLACK contended that the scheme of the noble and learned lord was far from being an improvement upon that which he himself had last year submitted.

He was, for instance, by no means satisfied with that portion of the bill which provided for the continuance of the tax for a period of fifteen years, and which virtually amounted to its imposition upon those by whom it was at present paid during the remainder of their lives. His opinion was that the people of Edinburgh would not be willing to bear it; but, if the clergy and the inhabitants approved, he would not oppose the bill. He thought his own scheme preferable. No doubt, some of the town ministers were very long-lived; but suppose a few of them should live to a very great age, yet, when the greater bulk had come under the new arrangement, the few that remained might be expected also to concur. The hon. gentlemen had talked about seat-rents, and their being free to the poor; but there was little or no foundation for this. Indeed, the feeling in Edinburgh was, that the seat-rents were a great deal too high. As it was, half the seats were vacant, and the people would not attend the Church if they were charged no seat-rents at all. (Hear.) There could be no doubt that for some time the Established Church in Edinburgh had been sinking. This very tax acted as a wet blanket, and was to a great extent the cause of the popular dislike to it, leading them to regard the institution, not as one for promoting their welfare, but actually doing them an injury. It was impossible to believe that the Established Church in Edinburgh could prosper under such a system. The bill he proposed did not interfere with the number of the clergy. He did not care what was the number; they might be fifty, provided they paid for them. He thought the plan of the learned lord would have a more injurious influence on the Established Church than that introduced by him last year. It was quite possible some modification might be made in the measure so as to render it more agreeable to the inhabitants of Edinburgh, and more useful to the Church; he would vote for the resolution and see what shape it took in its progress through the House.

Mr. BLACKBURN thought the proposal unobjectionable, in so far as the new tax was less than that now in force. It would depend much on the details of the bill whether he could give it his support, but no doubt there would be every disposition to have the matter settled.

The LORD ADVOCATE proposed that the commission should be unpaid. (Hear, hear.) The seat-rents to the extent of 300*l.* a year formed part of the ordinary revenue of the city of Edinburgh, and it would be necessary to provide a substitute by a rate to that extent, to be levied as a police-rate over the whole community.

The resolution was agreed to.

REFORM OF THE CITY CORPORATION.

Sir G. C. LEWIS moved for leave to bring in a bill for the better regulation of the corporation of the city of London, stating that the bill was substantially the result of the report of a select committee of this House, which considered in a former session a bill founded on the report of a commission of inquiry into the condition of the corporation. It was limited to the constitution of the corporation, not including financial matters. During the present session, he might have to call the attention of the House to the subject of the coal duties.

Mr. AYRTON condemned the bill, which he characterised as a little, trumpery, compromising measure, which permitted a mere municipality to levy taxes upon a large community. After some remarks from Mr. W. Williams and Mr. Alderman Cubitt, Mr. JOHN LOCKE suggested the fusion of the Metropolitan Board of Works with the municipality of London.

Leave was given to bring in the bill.

PACKET AND TELEGRAPHIC CONTRACTS.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved the reappointment of the Committee on Packet and Telegraph Contracts.

Sir J. PAKINGTON called attention to the manner in which the inquiry was conducted in the last session, and to the manner in which it was desirable that it should be in future conducted, in order to raise the question whether it was consistent with the practice of Parliament for the committee to enter into matters involving personal charges.

Sir F. BARING, a member of the last committee (in the absence of Mr. Cobden, the chairman), said it would be of no use to appoint committees of inquiry if they were to stop when the charges assumed a personal character. Lord J. MANNERS, likewise a member of the committee, stated that he and other

members had objected to the course the inquiry was taking.

Mr. OSBORNE thought that the nomination of the committee should be referred to the Committee of Selection. Sir S. NORTHGOTE said he differed from Sir J. Pakington as to the scope of the committee's inquiry. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER thought that it was impossible for the committee in such an inquiry altogether to avoid personal matters. In his opinion they had acted in a spirit of equity and fairness, and had not exceeded the proper bounds of their investigation. Sir H. WILLOUGHBY suggested whether it would not be better expressly to limit the inquiry to questions of public policy.

The motion was then agreed to.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY.

Sir G. C. LEWIS, in moving for leave to bring in a bill to provide for the consideration of an ordinance which has been laid before Parliament in a report of the Oxford University Commissioners, said the ordinance was one which regulated the constitution of St. John's College, Oxford. A difference had arisen between the commissioners and the college, and the bill proposed to provide a tribunal for the adjudication of that difference.

Lord R. CRETELL looked upon the measure as nothing less than a breach of the contract which was entered into between Parliament and the University of Oxford in 1854. The commissioners proposed changes to which strong objection was taken; but the colleges were anxious to meet them, and it was only in St. John's, where interests of a most important school in the city of London were injuriously affected, that the veto was exercised. Why, then, should Parliament be called upon to abolish that veto?

The bill was brought in and read a first time.

THE REFORM QUESTION.

DEPUTATION TO LORD JOHN RUSSELL.

On Thursday a deputation had an interview with Lord John Russell, to hand his lordship a petition signed by 10,000 of the inhabitants of the City of London, upon the subject of Parliamentary Reform, which they wished the noble lord to present and support. There were present Colonel Sykes, M.P., Mr. Roupell, M.P., Mr. J. Caird, M.P., Mr. Whalley, M.P., Mr. Heywood (formerly M.P. for North Lancashire), Mr. Samuel Morley, Mr. Whitehurst, Mr. White (formerly M.P. for Plymouth), Messrs. R. N. Phillips, Donald Nicoll (late M.P. for Frome), Mr. Willans, Mr. Peter Carstairs, Mr. P. A. Taylor, Mr. Horace St. John, Mr. Edward S. Pryce, Mr. C. H. Elt, Mr. Thomas Bazley, M.P., &c. The body of the petition, as read to his lordship, was as follows:—

That your petitioners accept with satisfaction the assurance of her Majesty's Ministers that they will be prepared, in the ensuing session of Parliament, to introduce a real and honest measure for the amendment of the laws which relate to the representation of the people.

That, in the judgment of your petitioners, no measure will be regarded as a settlement which does not include a large extension of the suffrage both in counties and in boroughs; an equitable redistribution of seats in proportion to the population and property of the constituencies; an assimilation of electoral laws for England, Scotland, and Ireland; and such protection to the voter, by means of ballot, as may arrest that corruption and intimidation which have been so fearfully prevalent in the late election, and which threaten to undermine the political institutions of the country.

In the opinion of your petitioners these offences should be visited with more severe and disgraceful punishments, and conviction be rendered more summary and more easily attainable than under the present Corrupt Practices Prevention Act.

It was signed by upwards of 10,600 persons, of whom upwards of 6,000 were registered electors.

Mr. S. MORLEY explained at some length the circumstances under which the petition had been signed so extensively in the city of London, where there was an eager desire for a wide and substantial measure of reform.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL said that as a representative of the City of London in the House of Commons, he would gladly take charge of the petition, and he quite agreed with the petitioners, that the time had arrived when a substantial measure of reform should be submitted for the consideration of Parliament. He had, in conjunction with other members of the Cabinet, prepared a measure which he trusted would be satisfactory to the country at large. It was his intention to state the details of this measure to the House of Commons on the 20th of February, and the public would have ample means of considering and discussing it prior to its second reading. At present it would obviously be premature to state more with regard to it. With respect to the alleged apathy of the country he could only wish that all the members of Parliament would inform themselves of the views of their constituents. If, as the deputation thought, and he (Lord John) believed, there was a very considerable feeling on the subject—although he was prepared to say that, as far as the members of either House of Parliament were concerned, very little evidence in support of such a feeling existed—it was plain that the more the various constituencies expressed themselves upon the matter the more likely was the question to be settled. One of the greatest things to be considered was to obtain a measure that was likely to pass through Parliament, for, independently of any advantage that might accrue to individuals or to the Government, it was most desirable to the trade and commerce of the country that the question should be

settled as soon as possible, and not thrown over from year to year, as had previously been the case. This was all he could say on that occasion.

After some further conversation the deputation thanked the noble lord for the courteous reception he had given them, and retired.

MEETING OF THE BALLOT SOCIETY.

The council of this society assembled yesterday at the Whittington Club, to take into consideration the manner in which the ballot should be brought before Parliament this session. The Hon. F. Henry F. Berkeley, M.P., took the chair. Mr. Serjeant GASELEE moved—

That the Hon. F. Henry F. Berkeley, M.P., Chairman of this society, be requested as early as possible to give notice of his intention to move for leave to bring in a bill enacting that the votes at elections for members of Parliament be taken by the ballot, and that he be further requested to bring forward his motion as soon as practicable.

This resolution was seconded by Lieutenant-Colonel TOWNSEND WILSON; and the Chairman inviting discussion, Mr. BONTOMS and Mr. WHITEHURST briefly addressed the meeting, and the resolution was then put and carried unanimously. Mr. JAMES BURKE (barrister) then addressed the meeting, dwelling particularly on the necessity of the ballot for Ireland, and concluded by moving—

That it is desirable that a bill, enacting that the votes at elections for members of Parliament be taken by the ballot, should, at any early period, be brought before the House of Lords, and that the executive committee be directed to take the necessary steps to carry this resolution into effect.

Mr. SAMUEL ELLIOTT, of Plymouth, seconded the motion. Lord TEYNHAM then addressed the meeting, and said he accepted the task of bringing the question before the House of Lords. (Loud cheers.) Mr. B. LUCRAFT having warmly supported the resolution, which was carried unanimously, Major-General PERRONET THOMPSON, who was warmly received, moved a resolution to the effect that the constituencies of the kingdom be urged to do all in their power to return ballot members, and to secure that those who had been returned to support the ballot did their duty. Mr. W. LAWSON, M.P., seconded the resolution. Some other resolutions were adopted.

In the evening there was a numerously attended public meeting at the same place, Mr. Berkeley also occupying the chair. The meeting was addressed by Mr. AYTON, M.P., the Hon. W. F. CAMPBELL, M.P., who urged the adoption of a middle course which would meet the views of all classes, and Mr. WYLD, M.P.

Mr. WASHINGTON WILKS said, it had been stated by Lord Brougham that he had found very little interest or excitement evinced about reform. Now, he himself, accompanied by Mr. Whitehurst, had addressed upwards of thirty meetings, and everywhere the voice of the people had unanimously and universally cried out for manhood suffrage and the ballot.

THE PHYSICAL CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

At the Seventh General Meeting of the Leeds Philosophical and Literary Society, held a few days ago, the Bishop of Ripon read an able paper "On the physical condition of the people, in its bearings upon their social and moral welfare."

His LORDSHIP said he had been induced to select that subject from the facts forced upon his attention during his pastorate in a large and densely populated metropolitan district.

Those facts disclosed such a state of things with respect to the dwellings of the poor, as to render comparatively inoperative the efforts of the minister and of the philanthropist, to reach their consciences and improve their social and moral position. These facts might not apply so strongly to the provinces as to the metropolis, but the general effects were the same wherever the physical condition of the people was found to be in a low and degraded state. In London few persons had an idea of the manner in which thousands of the poor lived. Their dwellings in many districts were crowded together, without ventilation, without air, without light, without water, and they themselves lived without any discrimination of sexes, as many as nine or ten in a room, so that all sense of delicacy and morality was seared if not extinguished, and they formed a class who lived upon theft and prostitution. The effect of this state upon the physical and moral condition of the people was fearful. As to the physical condition, it emaciated and degraded all who came under its influence, and it had been estimated that not less than 13,000 persons died annually in London, and 100,000 in England, from purely preventable causes, whilst something like one million more were wasted and debilitated from the same causes. The deaths in England were stated to be 33 per cent. above what, according to the best authorities, they ought to be. Then as to the moral effects of this system. Whatever tended to pauperise and degrade the people, tended to increase immorality and crime; and he believed that the fearful extent of intemperance amongst the poorer classes was owing chiefly to their low physical condition, which weakened their energies and excited an unnatural craving for stimulants. Then as to the cost of this crime and disease. It was believed that under proper regulations they might save one million per annum in poor-rates alone in ten years; and it was estimated that a single visit of the cholera to London had cost one million, whilst the annual cost of typhus fever was 255,000. As to crime, every prisoner cost twenty or thirty pounds per annum in prison, besides the cost of detection, prosecution, and conviction; and it had been stated by one authority that 400 criminals had cost the country no less than 80,000. Add these to the 51,000,000 spent annually by the working classes on intoxicating drinks and tobacco, and then they would have some idea of the frightful cost in life, health, and means of this physical degradation of large masses of their people. It might be urged that they must not interfere with Providence, but Providence had placed within their reach the power of controlling and checking this enormous waste of life and wealth, and it was their

duty to use those means. What was the effect of doing so? In Bradford, the death rate had been reduced in five years from 28½ per cent. to 22; in Liverpool, it had been reduced from 30 to 27; and in Gloucester, from 27 to 24. Declaring that it was utterly impossible for religion to thrive where immorality existed, he said that the question was one upon which all might combine, and that an exposure of the facts was the best way of obtaining an improvement. Let them investigate the laws of health and disease, let a knowledge of those laws be diffused amongst the people, let those in authority put in force the powers they possessed, and if they were not sufficient let them apply for greater powers, let every one in his own sphere encourage habits of cleanliness and temperance, let the poor know that those above them sympathised with them, let them endeavour, in fact, to make the dwelling of the poor worthy of the musical word "home." (Applause.)

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

MATRICULATION.—JANUARY, 1860.

FIRST DIVISION.—J. O'Neale Barnes, Tottenham-park School; E. C. Benecke, University College; L. D. Bevan, New College; W. R. Birch, King's College; J. Birt, Manor House, Leamington; A. T. Chapman, Emmanuel, Cambridge; J. Charter, Mr. J. Freeman, Stratford; E. H. D'Avigdor, University; F. P. Edis, King's College School; T. P. Gaskell, University; E. Goddard, City of London School; H. W. Gordon, King's; S. S. Grubb, Queen's College, Cork; J. E. Hannum, private tuition; S. Harwood, Grove House, Tottenham; R. Hill, Forest House, Woodford; L. D. Kirby, St. Mary's, Oscott; A. G. Knight, Stonyhurst; T. Leigh, King's College School; C. D. Pearson, Camden House School, Brighton; T. R. Pinder, St. Mark's, Chelsea; H. J. Purkiss, City of London School; John P. Purvis, Blackheath Proprietary School; C. Read, private tuition; J. Stuckey, University College School; J. Ure, King Edward's School, Birmingham; S. W. Watson, Chigwell Grammar School; J. J. Wenham, Clewer House School.

SECOND DIVISION.—H. R. Bell, King's; E. F. Boulton, Bath Grammar School; J. B. Bradbury, private tuition; H. G. Budd, Worcester Grammar School; S. T. Courtney, Grammar School, Leatherhead; J. Davies, Normal College, Swansea; G. Elkington, King Edward's School, Birmingham; E. T. C. Ellis, King's; W. C. Fooks, King's; H. S. Gardner, private tuition; C. J. Grelle, Christ's Hospital; R. T. Grubb, private tuition; W. Hargrave, private tuition; T. W. Jackson, Rev. R. Robinson, Newmarket; J. Lenton, Rev. A. Newth, Oundle; H. Luck, King's; A. J. Matthew, St. John's-wood Proprietary School; M. J. Mayou, private tuition; G. K. Meavy, Grammar School, Cartmel; T. Middlemore, private tuition; E. Moore, Bramham College; J. S. Patmer, Dunmow Diocesan School; T. Perry, private tuition; C. W. Pitt, Marlborough College; C. Puzey, Merchant Taylors' School; W. Rumbold, Marlborough Grammar School; A. Sanders, private tuition; W. J. Smith, Grammar School, Wisbeach; T. J. Stainton, King's; W. Taylor, Free Charity School, Ormsbury; J. Thies, City of London School; R. Tolmie, Working Men's College; E. Tomkins, private tuition; R. Turner, King's; J. S. Wesley, King's; E. B. Whitwell, Grove House, Tottenham; J. T. Widnell, University; W. H. Woolston, Grammar School, Leatherhead.

THIRD DIVISION.—S. Bateman, Grammar School, Spilsby; W. A. Bracy, King Edward's School, Birmingham; T. W. Corbin, Palmer House, Holloway; W. F. Dickes, St. Paul's School; O. T. Duke, St. Paul's School; T. Holyoake, St. Marylebone Grammar School; G. A. D. Mahon, Marlborough College; J. T. Micklethwaite, St. John's School, Wakefield; T. H. Phillips, Spring-hill College; J. Reddrop, Grammar School, Warminster.

Court, Official, and Personal News.

A Cabinet Council was held yesterday at the official residence of the First Lord of the Treasury in Downing-street.

Both Lord Palmerston and Lord John Russell have visited the Queen at Windsor Castle during the week.

The Prince of Orange has arrived on a visit to the Queen. He is in his twentieth year, and holds commissions both in the army and navy of Holland. The Prince and all his family are Protestants. During the few days of the Prince of Orange's visit, Windsor Castle will be the scene of brilliant hospitality. Her Majesty will be attended by a fuller Court than usual.

Mr. T. Stamford Raffles has been appointed stipendiary magistrate at Liverpool, in the room of Mr. Mansfield.

Miss Nightingale is residing at Oakhill, Froggnall, near Hampstead; but we regret to say that her health, though much improved, is far from being re-established.

The Post believes that the Government bankruptcy measure will include a provision enabling the Scottish Courts, upon proof that the majority of the creditors live in England, to transfer all the proceedings to the proper tribunal in this country.

Mrs. Goodhart, the wife of the Rev. C. J. Goodhart, minister of Park Chapel, Chelsea, was killed by an accident at Brighton on Wednesday.

Government is stated to have given up the idea of fortifying Weedon, and making it the central depot for our vast accumulation of military stores and materials. The Commissioners appointed to inquire into its advantages for such a station report: No natural defences.

The official correspondence with Mr. Bruce, her Majesty's Envoy to China, has been issued. On October 10th, Lord J. Russell expressed a hope of arrangement without further bloodshed. The inhabitants of Peking think the English only formidable at sea. The Chinese officials speak coolly of the occupation of Canton, as if indifferent of this loss to the Empire.

Seventeen election petitions stood over from last

session. That against the return for Devonport has been withdrawn, but the other sixteen stand at present for trial.

The writ for Scarborough has been issued, and Lieut.-Col. Caulfield, a Liberal, is a candidate. No opposition is expected.

The vacant seat for Beverley is to be contested by Mr. Walker, Conservative, and Mr. Gridley, Liberal.

With regard to the wine duties, it is alleged, upon authority which seems scarcely open to question, that the reduction from the present rate of 5s. 9d. to 1s. per gallon will not take place till April, 1861. The rate to be proposed for the intervening period is reported to be 3s. Moreover, when the 1s. rate is adopted it is not to be uniform. There are to be three rates, according to strength, namely, 1s. for all under 15 per cent. of strength, 1s. 6d. for all under 26 per cent., and 2s. for all under 40 per cent.—*Times City Article.*

Miscellaneous News.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Arrangements have been concluded by the directors for a great musical celebration of several days' duration, by between 3,000 and 4,000 members of the choral societies of France, at the Crystal Palace in June next.

DECREASE OF CRIME IN CARLISLE.—The total number of persons taken into custody during the year 1859 was 300—221 males and 79 females; in the previous year the number was 425—322 males and 103 females; there being thus 125 fewer prisoners in 1859 than in the preceding year.—*Carlisle Journal.*

PAUPERISM.—Pauperism is still happily below the mark. In the fourth week of December last the decrease in England and Wales was 31,130, or 3.63 per cent., being the difference between 857,903 and 826,773. The decrease was without exception in all the eleven districts. The same may be said of the remaining weeks of the month.

THE BERWICK ELECTION AND THE NORTHERN REFORM UNION.—Mr. Majoribanks has abandoned all legal proceedings against Messrs. Cowen, Reed, and Gilmour, of the Northern Reform Union. The Northern Reform Union have not, however, abandoned the case against the corrupters of the Berwick voters. They have now twelve writs pending against the supporters of Mr. Majoribanks, who have nine against the Election Committee for libel. All the causes, it is expected, will be tried at the Newcastle assizes, which are fixed to be held this month.

THE BRITISH MUSEUM.—The great question of a separation of the contents of the British Museum has been decided. The separation is to take place. Last Saturday, at the meeting of trustees, the evidence on both sides was thoroughly sifted and ascertained, and the trustees resolved that science and literature—birds and books—should dwell in homes apart. The library, of course, remains in Great Russell-street. Professor Owen, and his interesting family of beasts, birds, and fishes—bones, rocks, plants, and crystals—have leave to quit. The public will learn with very great pleasure that the question has been solved in this sense.—*Athenæum.*

PROPOSED RAILWAY ACROSS THE ANDES.—At the meeting of the Royal Geographical Society last week, Sir Roderick Murchison in the chair, Dr. Shaw read a paper on the proposed railway across the Andes from Caldera *via* Cordova to Rosario on the Plata. The author was Mr. Wheelwright, an engineer who has been for years engaged in constructing railways in Chili. He is of opinion that the Caldera and Rosario Railway, though difficult, is not impracticable. It would open up the South American States to commerce and place England within fifty days of Australia. Admiral Fitzroy said he believed the railway to be practicable.

THE PARK MUSEUM, SALFORD, AND DR. LIVINGSTONE.—Through the kindness of James A. Turner, Esq., M.P., a donation has been forwarded to the museum of a number of insects, which are very interesting, as having been collected by Dr. Livingstone on the banks of the river Zambesi, on the east coast of Africa. The insects are not new species to the entomologists versed in foreign coleoptera, but coming from this locality, and being collected by the hand of a man universally known, they will be equally regarded with interest by the scientific and the unlearned in such matters. The insects are placed in a case by themselves in the foreign-room, and are conspicuously labelled.—*Salford Weekly News.*

MONUMENT TO THE LATE DR. DICK.—A beautiful monument, of Peterhead polished granite, from a design by Mr. Scott, of Dundee, executed by Wright, of Aberdeen, has just been erected in Broughty Ferry, in memory of the late Dr. Dick. The design consists of an obelisk, fourteen feet high, upon a pedestal of corresponding character. The ground is tastefully laid out with plants, and enclosed with chains, hung upon small obelisk pillars, in harmony with the monument. The inscription is as follows:—"In memory of Thomas Dick, LL.D., Author of 'The Christian Philosopher,' &c. Born, 1774. Died, 1857." This erection is a simple, chaste, and fitting memorial of "the Christian Philosopher," whose ashes rest at its base.—*Dundee Advertiser.*

A HINT TO RELIGIOUS AND PHILANTHROPIC SOCIETIES.—The able correspondent of the *Times*, "S.G.O.," who has so rare a faculty of the exposure of abuses, suggests "that the patrons and others interested in societies, secular and religious, will do wisely if they at once take the published lists of their respective 'assets,' i.e., that branch of them which consists in money 'invested.' With these lists as a guide, let them have positive proof that

the several sums are 'invested' in the 'stock,' 'shares,' 'bills,' &c., in which they profess to be invested. Further, let it be seen whether any, and how many, of these investments were *bond fide* in the form professed during the last two years; whether they have or have not been dealt with, for longer or shorter periods, without the knowledge of all who ought to have known the fact. Again, let it be ascertained whether the actual securities for these invested sums are, and have been always during the last two years, in the hands of those said to hold them."

THE GLOUCESTER ELECTION COMMISSIONERS, according to their voluminous report, now placed in the hands of members in Parliament, state that Sir W. Hayter and Mr. Moffatt do not appear to have been cognisant of the bribery that was proved to have taken place. These two gentlemen are, therefore, exonerated. Sir R. W. Carden, Mr. Price, Admiral Berkeley, and Mr. Monk, are also exonerated; but the Commissioners give schedules of the names of individuals who accepted bribes, and of those who were guilty of other corrupt practices. The Commissioners say that bribery will not be checked until the briber is punished as the more culpable person than the receiver of the bribe. They also severely condemn the practice of employing messengers, which ought to be done away with.

THE ARMSTRONG GUN.—The total number of these guns completed at Woolwich, or just about to be completed, is 220; all of them being 12-pounders. No more of this minimum size will be made at present, enough having been got through to arm all our field batteries with them. A much heavier ordnance will now be made, viz., guns of 25, 40, 70, and 100 pounds. At least 1,000 will be finished by next Christmas. The 100-pounders will, it is believed, have a range of 6½ miles. In addition to Woolwich, Elswick, near Newcastle, it will be recollected, is the great centre of gunmaking. The Elswick works now bring out 14 guns per week; and they are considered capable of finishing 650 by the end of the year, which, with the Woolwich numbers, will give a total of 1,650. Mr. Whitworth's new breechloading cannon is the great competitor with Sir W. Armstrong's. For strength, simplicity, range, and accuracy, it is said even to surpass it; but this point will be set at rest in a few days, when a public trial of the gun is to be made near Liverpool.

FUNERAL OF CAPTAIN HARRISON AT LIVERPOOL.—The remains of Captain Harrison were consigned to their last resting-place on Friday morning, amid the most heartfelt demonstrations of respect and esteem. The procession assembled at the Lime-street railway station, about half-past ten, where the body was received with every solemnity. The cortege passed along the principal streets to St. James's cemetery, and arrived there about eleven o'clock. In the procession were the Mayor (T. D. Anderson, Esq.), and several of the Town-Council, directors of the Great Eastern, the captains of the Cunard Company's steamers, officers and part of the crew of H.M.S. Hastings; captains and officers of the merchant service generally, together with many of the leading gentlemen of the town. Flags were flying half-mast high from most of the buildings on the route, and many of the shops were partially closed during the funeral. The streets were lined with spectators, and it was estimated that there would not be less than 30,000 people present altogether, though the weather was wet and cold. The ceremony was of the most impressive character, and all classes appeared to participate in the general sorrow.

CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS.—The public will be glad to learn (says the *Times*) that our advocacy of the cause of our homeless poor this winter has again produced the subscription of a sum for their relief amounting in all to little short of that which was so generously contributed this time last year. The following are the amounts received up to the time when we ceased to give insertion to the daily statement:—

Field-lane Refuge	£3,365	9	9
Londoners over the Border	1,680	0	10
Refuges for Homeless and Destitute Children, Old Broad-street, Bloomsbury	637	16	3
Metropolitan Relief Association, No. 4, St. Martin's-place (about)	1,250	0	0
North-West London Preventive and Reformatory Institution, Euston-road	465	10	8
Refuges for the Destitute, Playhouse-yard, Whitecross-street	344	11	0
Reformatory and Refuge Union, 118, Pall Mall	328	3	0
Distresses in the Suburbs	143	7	6
Other small contributions for various minor charities	713	10	5
Total	£8,928	9	5

THE PROPOSED BEER BILL.—A deputation of the friends of the National Temperance League attended on Saturday before the Right Hon. Sir G. C. Lewis, at the Home-office, for the purpose of ascertaining the intentions of her Majesty's Government with reference to the above subject, and also with the view of offering suggestions. Mr. Payne having introduced the deputation, Sir G. C. Lewis observed that he was not at that moment in a position to communicate any decision which the Government had come to in reference to the subject. It would, however, receive due attention. Mr. Tweedie said he had waited upon the Bishop of Oxford, and had obtained a distinct statement from his lordship that in the event of the Government not bringing forward a measure in the Commons his lordship would introduce the subject into the House of Lords. They considered that 42,000 beer-houses and 63,000 public-houses were a great deal too many for the require-

ments of the public; that facilities for the sale of beer increased the evil of drunkenness instead of supplying a better article; that public-houses and beer-shops should be put under the same jurisdiction, and that the jurisdiction should be removed from the magistrates and confided to a special body elected by the ratepayers. Sir G. C. Lewis said he could not see how they could expect to extinguish drunkenness by measures of the kind proposed. As advocates of a Maine Liquor Law he could have better understood their purpose. What he understood them to recommend was that the present system of licensing public-houses and beer-shops should be abolished, and that the authority to license should be transferred to a body elected by some large constituency, and which should exercise no other functions. The deputation then withdrew.

Literature.

Commentary on the Pentateuch. Translated from the German of OTTO VON GERLACH, by Rev. HENRY DOWNING. Edinburgh: T. and T. Clark.

WE believe it is in *Stier's* work on the Words of Jesus, that there are occasional quotations with approbation of *Von Gerlach*. Those not very intimately acquainted with German literature would perhaps seek in vain for information respecting this divine,—would perhaps discover but one of the name, a theologian who lived in the early part of the seventeenth century. But Otto von Gerlach was a man of mark, though his uneventful life was spent as only a "studious hardworking German Pastor in Berlin." His present translator tells us, that he was born in 1801—his mother being of the Von Raumer family, and his father's family originally from Pomerania. He studied at Berlin, Heidelberg, and Göttingen; and for some time his attention was devoted to jurisprudence; but, ultimately, to theology. "He attended the lectures of Schleiermacher, then in the zenith of his influence, and also of Neander, Marheinecke, and Hengstenberg." He chose the occupation of a pastor, rather than that of a professor; and was ordained in 1835 to the Elizabeth Church in Berlin. He, however, "delivered some lectures in Berlin on ecclesiastical law and history, and on the interpretation of Scripture." He remained "indefatigably devoted" to his pastoral duties for thirteen years; and was then nominated preacher at the Dom. He gave himself always to biblical studies, and spent much of his life in the preparation of a Scripture Commentary; of which the third portion appeared in 1849; but he did not live to complete his labours—dying in October of the same year. This "Bible work" has a high place in the esteem of Germans; and the translator mentions that "Professor Ranke recommended it to him as a commentary deserving to be better known by all educated Englishmen." And we are heartily glad that a work of such a high character has been transferred to our own literature; and believe that it will become here, as in Germany, "a standard work of its kind."

Bengel's *Gnomon* may possibly have been a model for Von Gerlach,—or, at least, his intimacy with that great book may have shaped his judgment as to the work to be performed in a condensed, commentary on the Old Testament. His notes are more expanded than Bengel's, and want the critical element of the *Gnomon*: but if less brief and learned, they have a general character resembling that work more closely than any other German exposition of Scripture. They are conspicuously plain, sum up much information in a few words, and bring out pithily the moral and religious significance of the sacred writings. Very much patient study has gone to the production of such a book; and the quality of self-restraint must have been wonderfully vigorous in a writer, who, with constant temptation to enlargement and to controversial discussion, could forget himself and his scholarship in a sustained effort simply to enlighten and edify common readers of the Holy Scriptures. Large reading and critical investigation have united in the author's personal labours; but only their developed and well-matured results are given to the reader. The "scientific" commentator will, if he be wanting in religious feeling, be inclined, perhaps, to disparage the work: but we are persuaded that every candid scholar, however learned, will think that, judged from its own point of view, as a popular exposition, intended to help the intelligent and devout reading of the Bible by those who are not professionally devoted to critical studies, it is deserving of the highest praise, and is fitted to confer incalculable benefits on those who resort frequently to its pages.

The notes on the Pentateuch are prefaced by a brief general introduction—exceedingly orthodox in opinion and feeling—to the Scriptures of the Old Testament, and more particularly to the books of Moses. Profound religious views of the oracles of God are suggested to the mind; and points on which controversy rages are kept

in the background. Indeed, the one thing that might, perhaps, be urged against Von Gerlach is, that he is hardly fair with his reader, in stating positively, and without any hint of doubtfulness, matters of opinion that are yet far from settled among divines and scholars. But let it be distinctly understood that the author's purpose is to state dogmatically what he has verified for himself, and to present an interpretation in general accordance with the accepted views of the evangelical school, and the objection vanishes, and one reads with just so much confidence as the eminent character of the writer commands, and with such trust and assent as his matter secures for itself.

While the Notes are usually very concise,—and phrases and allusions are explained in a word,—the greater matters of the holy testimony are treated with sufficient fulness to give whole and clear conceptions of the facts and truths whereon the superstructure of religion rests. Thus, the longest note of the commentary on the first chapter of Genesis, is that on "the image of God" in man;—and is as follows:—

"Holy Scripture speaks of God's image in man in two senses. On the one hand, we understand the spiritual, moral, intellectual part of his being, which man cannot lose (ch. v. 1, ix. 6; cf. Matt. xxii. 21). The capacity to know God, and to love Him when known, and through the knowledge and love of God to become partaker of the highest blessedness,—this makes the soul of man a mirror of the Deity. Hence follows his capacity of acting not simply in obedience to what is pleasant or unpleasant to the senses,—his capacity of acting in obedience to the Divine law, his free-will, and his accountability should he not so act; hence follows the capacity of improvement and advance, both as regards the human race as a whole, and the individual man. By means of reason, which is one with freedom, and capable of an ever-progressing advance, man is lord of nature; and 'the highest aim of rational beings is this—to express, by act of the will, that image which the Creator has impressed on them by the gift of this faculty of obedience.' (Anselm.) This image of God in man cannot be destroyed (says St. Bernard) even in hell; it can burn, but cannot be consumed—can be tormented, but cannot be destroyed. If it could cease, then would cease also the feeling of its sin and punishment, and thus the very punishment be lost. But Holy Scripture speaks also of an image of God which man has lost by sin, and to which he is renewed through Christ (Eph. iv. 24; Col. iii. 10; cf. Eccles. vii. 29); and therefore this renewal is also called 'a new creature.' God has not merely created man with the power to know and love Him, and free to choose his laws; but He has likewise in the beginning actually revealed Himself to his knowledge and love, and given him will an inclination towards His law. (cf. iii. 3). He has created him good and happy. Man was also the image of God in this respect: that as God possesses self-consciousness, knows and loves Himself, and in this knowledge and love enjoys the highest bliss, so also man, by means of his freedom and self-consciousness, knew and loved God, and so was happy. This image of God in man is altogether lost by sin, and is only restored by the preventing, renewing grace of God. But between the image of God in man which cannot be erased, and the image which has been lost by sin, there is a close connexion, since, by man's alienation from God, he has become carnal, brutalised, and is in danger of losing the power of knowing and loving God, if not entirely, yet in a very great degree, as is the case with mankind everywhere, and was more entirely the case with the heathen world. This is eternal decay and punishableness—eternal death, which is the penalty of sin."

The more thoughtfully this note is read, the more highly will its contents be appreciated for comprehensiveness and perspicuity. Historical and antiquarian matter is not wanting in these notes, where it can afford real elucidation of the text: but, we are glad to observe, that there is none of that lavish and wild profusion of distantly-related matter of the kind, which, in some popular English works, has done so much to draw off the reader from the spiritual kernel to the mere historical and archæological shell of the Scriptures—and has even covered the shell itself with grotesque and unmeaning carvings. The study of the Tabernacle service and of the Law may be pursued under the guidance of Von Gerlach with more than usual interest and profit;—and a perception of the moral and eternal in temporal forms is more assisted by him than by such a writer as Kalisch, who alone has given us in English a creditable commentary on the same portion of the Pentateuch.

We have marked many notes that we should like to quote, in which a plain explanation, or a valid reason, or a pungent practical remark, is given with peculiar happiness and force: but we must refrain. The volume is a genuine one,—very valuable, and deserving of great reputation. Mr. Downing's labour has been well bestowed and has served the Church efficiently:—we hope he will speedily give to the world the translation of Gerlach's exposition of the Minor Prophets, the appearance of which he makes conditional on the success of the present volume,—a success that ought to be perfect and complete.

Ragged Homes, and How to Mend Them. By Mrs. BAYLY. Sixth Thousand. London: Nisbet and Co.

Haste to the Rescue; or, Work while it is Day. By Mrs. CHARLES WIGHTMAN. Fifth Thousand. London: Nisbet and Co.

THESE works must be classed with "The Missing Link," which was so earnestly commended to our

readers in a leading article of this journal, and with the now everywhere-known volume of Miss Marsh, which began the new literature, if not the work itself, of which these books are the chief representatives. And right noble little books they are,—that make us thankful to God for English women, and for the English Christianity that has prepared women to take such a part in the social renovation of our country. Mrs. Bayly has worked in the "ragged homes" of the "Potteries" at Kensington, and has mended them: and she has taught her sisters how, with no special energy or endowment, with no peculiar advantage or aid, but with simple faith in human nature and in God, with love to the one inspired by love of the other, and with simple womanliness for her power and her defence, it is possible for a woman to take hold on coarse and brutal natures, to win them, raise them, transform them, and be, by God's help and blessing, a regenerator and a priestess to the most depraved and miserable;—and how to make home the mould and the support of character, and through the order and comfort and due estimation of its smallest things, and the awakening of the essential spirit of its life, to bring refinement to the rude, purity to the base, and piety to the criminally selfish and ignorant. In words so natural, so true, so telling, that none can escape their simple power, she makes known her labours—not for her sake, but ours,—with a modesty that charms, and with a Christian frankness that engages our whole moral nature on her side. May the voice of the book be to many women, throughout the land, a command, and persuasion, and encouragement, to go and do likewise. It is because the *sixth* thousand is now issued that we have written these words of a book that we hope many of our readers intimately know.

Mrs. Wightman's "Haste to the Rescue" is a similar story of self-denying, generous, devoted effort, by a weak woman, to rid the community in which she resides—Shrewsbury—of the great and damning curse of drunkenness. Such labours must have been carried on in the face of enormous difficulties and discouragements,—and there is evidently nothing exaggerated in the representation of them. But it is *what has been done*, and *how*, not what has been suffered in the doing of it, that Mrs. Wightman is anxious to tell us; and she, too, like Mrs. Bayly and Miss Marsh, quickens and strengthens a humane and religious mind by her facts and experiences. We marvel at her success,—the actual result seems much more likely to be overrated by the excellent lady than her own toils in producing it; and she is evidently sanguine and charitable. But, who could do what she is doing, if she had not the most large-hearted trust in men—even in bad men—in men who have failed her and deceived her once and again? And let us all be very sure that

"The darkest heart hath signs to tell
That God still lingers there."

and that perfect trust and perfect love are the elements of the only power that never wholly fails and never can be utterly disappointed. We may not all agree with Mrs. Wightman in choosing *Total Abstinence* as the method and weapon of the reformation she seeks:—we may fear that *that* amendment is particularly liable to stop short of a genuine human reformation, and to become a mere empty phariseism with no higher virtue behind. But Mrs. Wightman is awake to the danger of a merely outward reformation; and uses *Total Abstinence* only as an instrument, and has a vast deal more than itself in view, and reaches a vastly higher result by means it supplies. And heartily and lovingly do we wish her "God speed."

Gleanings.

Mrs. Howitt writes to the *Critic* to contradict the statement that she has embraced Swedenborgianism. A church is about to be erected at Castlemaine, Victoria, for the benefit of Chinese converts to Christianity.

The *Court Circular* says that "the once celebrated John Parry is now filling the office of parish organist in a small town in Wales."

Seventy members of Parliament claim this session to be wholly excused from serving on election committees, on account of being more than sixty years old.

Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton has returned once more to poetry. The poem of "St. Stephen's" (to be completed in three parts), which opens the current number of *Blackwood*, is ascribed to him.

The Earl of Winchelsea, better known as Viscount Maidstone, has returned not only to Parliament but to poetry. The author of "Abd-el-Kader" and the "Deluge" is rendering the "Book of Job" into English verse.

For the benefit of capitalists, and the encouragement of embryo poets, we extract the following from the *Hull Advertiser*:—"Wanted to borrow, 500l. on a manuscript poem, the estimated value of which is 10,000l. Address, L.L.D."

It may be interesting to our lady readers to know that the colour most in vogue in the House of Lords yesterday week was mauve, but of a much lighter tint than was fashionable last season. Next in popularity was pale blue and white.

A lady asked a minister whether a person might not be fond of dress and ornament without being proud. "Madame," said the minister, "when you see a fox's tail peeping out of the hole, you may be sure the fox is within."

Lydia Maria Child, the well-known anti-slavery advocate, is to write the life of John Brown on behalf of his family. Mrs. Child is already in possession of all the facts and incidents of John Brown's earlier history, which she has only to complete by the story of his late career.

CRINOLINE YIELDING AT LAST.—In describing the ceremony of opening Parliament, and the crowds of fashionables having the right of *entrée*, who occupied the benches in the House of Lords, the *Times* chronicler says:—"As the ladies sat closer and closer together, first six, then seven, then eight, and at last nine upon a moderate bench, a great light flashed upon all beholders, and they saw that the reign of crinoline was over—the literal and metaphorical iron despotism of fashion was broken at last. The exceptions to this rule, it is true, were neither few nor unimportant, but still they were the exceptions."

BIRTHS.

MATHESON.—Jan. 21, at Soham, Cambridgeshire, the wife of the Rev. D. L. Matheson, B.A., of a son.

REED.—Jan. 20, the wife of the Rev. Andrew Reed, B.A., of 7, Queen's-terrace, Primrose-hill, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

JAMES-CHARLES.—Jan. 17, at St. Panoras Church, by the Very Rev. the Dean of Wells, F.R.S., the Rev. Edward Boucher James, M.A., Vicar of Carisbrooke, Isle of Wight, to Rachel, only daughter of Robert Charles, Esq., of 3, Tavilton-street, Gordon-square.

BUTLER-COLE.—Jan. 10, at the Independent Chapel, Demerham, by the Rev. S. Williams, Mr. T. Butler, yeoman, to Miss Mary Cole, third daughter of Mr. G. Cole, yeoman, Lophall Farm.

MACFEE-GALT.—Jan. 10, at St. Andrew's Free Church, Oxford-road, Manchester, by the Rev. J. O. Paterson, A. Macfee, Esq., of Liverpool, to Jane, daughter of Mr. J. Galt, of Manchester.

JACKSON-WATSON.—Jan. 10, at Eastbrook Chapel, Bradford, by the Rev. R. Ray, Mr. John Jackson, to Mrs. Elizabeth Watson, both of Drighlington.

PARKINSON-HARDAKER.—Jan. 21, at the Trinity-road Chapel, Halifax, by the Rev. P. Scott, Mr. John Parkinson, manufacturer, Eastburn, near Sutton, Craven, to Mrs. Hardaker, of Halifax.

HARRISON-JACKSON.—Jan. 14, at Stockwell New Chapel, by the Rev. D. Thomas, Mr. R. W. Harrison, of Hanbury, to Christiana, daughter of Mr. A. Jackson, of Park-terrace, Brixton.

DUMPER-FUSSELL.—Jan. 24, at the Congregational Church, Winchester, by the Rev. W. Thorn, Mr. Charles Dumper, of the High-street, Winchester, to Miss Esther Fussell, of Northgate, Winchester.

ASHWELL-PLOWRIGHT.—Jan. 24, at Nottingham, John Ashwell, jun., Esq., to Emma, youngest daughter of Wm. Plowright, Esq., Parliament-street.

HARRIS-LAMBERT.—Jan. 20, at the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon's Chapel, New Park-street, by the Rev. Samuel Luke, of Clifton, Mr. J. C. Harris, of Clifton, to Harriet, youngest daughter of Mr. J. Lambert, of Tooting.

CROPPER-DAVIDSON.—Jan. 20, at the Congregational Chapel, Sneyton, Nottingham, by the Rev. E. G. Cecil, Mr. John S. Cropper, Nottingham, to Elizabeth, second daughter of Mr. W. S. Davidson, Sneyton.

WALKER-TYTE.—Jan. 20, at the Independent Chapel, Doncaster, Mr. William Walker, of Buckingham, to Miss Euphemia Stannell Tyte, sister of the Rev. C. C. Tyte, of the former town.

BARRY-SHAFTOE.—Jan. 20, at the Centenary Chapel, York, by the Rev. L. H. Wiseman, Thomas Pogrove, son of J. Barry, Esq., to Harriette, daughter of J. Shaftoe, Esq., of Monkgate, York.

PICKLES-DELANEY.—Jan. 20, at the Independent Chapel, Longsight, Manchester, by the Rev. A. Pickles, of Hunslet, father of the bridegroom, assisted by the Rev. W. Smith, Longsight, Mr. Fred. H. Pickles, Ardwick, to Elizabeth Ellen, eldest daughter of the late Mr. L. Delaney, Kaunington, London.

ANDREW-ANDREW.—Jan. 20, at Zion Chapel, Lees, by the Rev. L. Stoney, Jerry Andrew, Esq., of Prospect House, Moseley, to Mrs. Andrew, of Birch Cottage, Lees.

DEATHS.

HILL.—Jan. 8, at Hopetown Lodge, Peckham-rye, Frank Hill, Esq., aged fifty-nine, for many years connected with the *Daily News*.

LOWE.—Jan. 17, at Higher Broughton, Manchester, in the sixtieth year of his age, Francis Voltaire Lowe, Esq., formerly a deacon of Richmond Chapel.

CARPENTER.—Jan. 21, at Leamington, the Rev. Benjamin Carpenter, for thirty-seven years the minister of the High Pavement Chapel, Nottingham.

WOOD.—Jan. 22, at Tickhill, Yorkshire, aged eighty-three, Elizabeth, relict of the Rev. Thomas Wood, formerly pastor of the Independent Church, Jewin-street, Cripplegate.

READ.—Jan. 23, at 24, Devonshire-street, Islington, Maria, the wife of Mr. J. T. Read.

TIMPSON.—Jan. 24, at The Retreat, Lewisham, Kent, the Rev. Thomas Timpson, in the seventieth year of his age, for thirty-six years Independent minister in that village.

BRISBANE.—Jan. 27, at Brisbane, Ayrshire, in his eighty-seventh year, General Sir Thomas Mackdonnell Brisbane, Baronet, G.C.B., G.C.H., LL.D., &c., of Brisbane and Makerstown, Colonel of the 34th Regiment of Foot, and President of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

PHAIR.—Jan. 28, at Great Wakering, Essex, in the sixty-fourth year of his age, of paralysis on the brain, the Rev. J. W. Phair, Independent minister, leaving a numerous family to sorrow for his loss.

Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

CITY, Tuesday Evening.

The continued drain of bullion induced the directors of the Bank of England, at a special meeting this day, to raise the minimum rate of discount from 3 per cent., at which it was fixed on the 20th instant, to 4 per cent. The amount of gold withdrawn from the Bank to-day for exportation was 80,000l., making an ascertained total of 592,000l. since the date of the last return. As favourable indications, however, it is observed that the continental exchanges have slightly improved, and that the remittances of gold and silver to Calcutta and China by the steamer of the 4th of February are expected to be smaller than usual. Consols, which opened at a reduction of $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent., closed $\frac{1}{4}$ higher than yesterday.

All the great moneyed establishments have become extremely cautious, and declined to-day to do business except for regular customers. In all cases 4 per cent. was the minimum; for bills having four months to run 5 per cent. was asked; whilst as regards six months' bills it would not be correct to fix even as high a rate

as 5½ to 6 per cent., the fact being that this class of paper was almost universally declined. The pressure was felt with equal force in the Stock Exchange. A day or two ago, loans were procurable in that establishment on Consols at 2½ per cent.; to-day the rate was as high as 5 per cent. for loans until the next settlement (the 8th of February), and the supply was very inadequate. The discount houses and discount companies have raised their rates for money at call from 2 to 3 per cent., and at seven days' notice from 2½ to 3½ per cent.

The foreign stock market was flat in the morning, but subsequently showed more steadiness.

The railway share market opened this morning with a heavy appearance, and a reduction of about ¼ per cent. was soon established in most of the leading stocks. Late in the afternoon a tendency to recovery was shown, and, with the exception of a decline of ½ per cent. in Great Northern stock, the final quotations were generally equal to those of yesterday. Lancashire and Yorkshire left off ¼ per cent., and Midland ½ per cent. higher than yesterday. The fortnightly settlement was completed this day.

THE STRAW PAPER.—All our printing and writing papers, with the exception of coarser qualities of printing, for which cotton and other waste is sometimes used, have hitherto been made from old rags. A plan was proposed some years since for the manufacture of paper from straw, but the article produced was extremely brittle. A large quantity of packing papers was made, but the reason stated prevented their general employment. A firm in town—Messrs. Parkins and Goto, of Oxford-street—have lately introduced a paper made from straw for writing purposes. It is now in general use also at colleges, schools, and educational institutions. It has a firm, smooth surface, which makes it pleasant to write upon either with a steel or quill pen, and the paper being well sized with the vegetable size of the straw from which it is made, the ink does not sink into it. For this latter reason also the straw paper is suitable for any climate, as neither damp nor heat affect it. The greatest recommendation is its extreme cheapness, being nearly half the price of the ordinary writing papers.

MALADIES INCIDENTAL TO TRADES AND EMPLOYMENTS.—The principal exciting causes of disease amongst the industrial population are—1. Sedentary confinement and insufficient ventilation. 2. A abrupt changes of temperature, to which all classes of artisans, and especially brass and iron founders, glass blowers, bakers, and brewers, are exposed. 3. The inhalation of an atmosphere impregnated with mineral, animal, and vegetable particles which irritate and often permanently inflame the bronchial surface and the delicate substance of the lungs, and are productive of great suffering amongst dry-grinders and needle-pointers; edge-tool, gun-barrel, and other grinders; metal filers; stone-cutters, miners, and quarryers; pearl and horn button-makers; flax-dressers, wool-carders, weavers, and feather-dressers; corn-millers; sawyers and turners. The remarkable curative properties of Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil in cases of consumption, chronic bronchitis, asthma, rheumatism, and general debility, rationally account for its extraordinary efficacy in the various disorders connected with arts and employments. In those special diseases of the respiratory organs, so prevalent in the manufacturing and mining districts, Dr. de Jongh's Cod Liver Oil has been used with the most striking beneficial results.

Mr. J. W. Benson, of 33 and 34, Ludgate-hill, has just published a new illustrated pamphlet on watches (free by post for two stamps). It should be read by all who are about buying a watch, as it contains prices and important information as to what watch to buy, where to buy it, and how to use it!

ADVERTISING.—HOLLOWAY'S PILLS THE MOST EFFECTUAL REMEDY FOR LIVER COMPLAINTS AND DISORDERS OF THE STOMACH.—At this season of the year, when these complaints are so prevalent, there is no better remedy than Holloway's Pills, whether as a preventive or cure. When taken in moderate doses, and strict attention paid to diet, the worst cases will be relieved. The strengthening properties of these Pills restore the impaired tone of the stomach, and cleanse the liver. Nothing so good has been discovered for the cure of persons suffering from a long residence in hot climates; and they surpass every other medicine for general family use. They have the happiest effect on the stomach and secretions, promoting digestion, and gently stimulating the torpid bowels.

"The high repute which Mr. Benson has obtained for the quality of his manufacture stands second to none."—Morning Advertiser. Benson's Lady's Gold Watch, at 5 to 30 guineas.—"Exquisite artistic feeling in ornamentation, and perfection of mechanism in structure."—Morning Post. Benson's Gentleman's Gold Watch, at 6 to 50 guineas.—"All that can be desired in finish, taste, and design."—Globe. Benson's Silver Lever Watches, at 4 to 10 guineas.—"Leave nothing to be desired but the money to buy them with."—Standard. Benson's Silver Horizontal Watch, at 2 to 3 guineas.—"A good watch without paying an exorbitant price."—Daily Telegraph. Each watch warranted, and sent free to any part of England, Scotland, Ireland, or Wales, on receipt of a remittance addressed to James W. Benson, at the manufactory, 33 and 34, Ludgate-hill, London. Established 1740.

The Gazette.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Friday's Gazette.)

An Account pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th of Vic., cap. 32, for the week ending on Wednesday, Jan. 25, 1860.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.
Notes issued £20,342,620
Government Debt £11,015,100
Other Securities ... 3,444,000
Gold Bullion 14,867,620
Silver Bullion —
£20,342,620

BANKING DEPARTMENT.
Proprietors' Capital £14,538,900
Reserve ... 8,295,133
Public Deposits ... 5,529,728
Other Deposits ... 14,079,747
Seven Day and other Bills ... 860,766
£28,318,376

Jan. 26, 1860. M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

Friday, January 27, 1860.

BANKRUPT.

ROBERTS, W., Coventry, builder, February 13, March 5.

JONES, J., Tunstall, Staffordshire, ironmonger, February 10, March 3.

BRANE, W., and BRANE, J., junior, Birmingham, printers, February 13, March 5.

STREET, J., Bristol, confectioner, February 7, March 5.

HILL, E. M., Liverpool, merchant and broker, February 7, March 26.

Tuesday, January 31, 1860.

BANKRUPT.

LAMBSON, C., Chiswick, barge builder, February 11, March 2.

CLAYTON, J., Newport, grocer, February 13, March 13.

JENNINGS, T. C., Ipswich, spice dealer, February 10, March 9.

EVANS, E., Wednesbury, Staffordshire, draper, February 13, March 5.
BOWELL, W., Birmingham, victualler, February 13, March 5.
JAMES, W., Dudley, tool manufacturer, February 16, March 8.
LYNALL, W. S., Digbeth, Birmingham, plumber, February 10, March 2.
WHITLOCK, J., Birmingham, grocer, February 15, March 21.
WORMAN, A., 126, Minories, boot and shoe manufacturer, February 11, March 8.
JONES, W., 3, New-road, Whitechapel, dairyman, February 10, March 9.
VABLEY, J., King's Mill, near Huddersfield, yarn spinner, February 6, March 3.
SMITH, W. J. T., Birmingham, pin manufacturer, February 10, March 2.
WILKINSON, G. N., and ORVIS, H., both of Hartlepool, ship-brokers, February 9, March 9.

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, LONDON, Monday, Jan. 30.
The foreign supplies last week were wheat—520 quarters from Bremen. Barley—780 quarters from Sweden, 690 quarters Denmark, 2,015 quarters Constantinople, 1,237 quarters Brazil. Oats—735 quarters from Sweden, 570 quarters Denmark. Peas—60 quarters from Hamburg. Flour—3,475 barrels from Philadelphia. We had a small supply of wheat from the neighbouring counties this morning, of which, however, a large proportion was so damp as to be unsaleable, but the good dry samples found buyers at last week's quotations. In foreign little was done, though the sales made were without change in price. Norfolk flour offering at 30s, without leading to business, and the trade dull. Fine malting barley fully as dear, but grinding and distilling neglected. Beans and peas without alteration. The oat trade, with a short supply, was dull, at last week's quotations. Linseed ready sale, and cakes rather dearer. Tares found buyers at our quotations. White clover-seed very firm; but in red, unless of fine quality, scarcely anything doing.

BRITISH.		FOREIGN.	
Wheat	s. d.	Wheat	s. d.
Essex and Kent, Red 34 to 46		Dantzic	44 to 56
Ditto White	36 52	Konigsberg, Red	46 52
Lincoln, Norfolk, and		Pomeranian, Red	46 52
Yorkshire Red	—	Rostock	46 52
Scotch	—	Danish and Holstein	44 46
Rye	32 34	East Friesland	42 44
Barley, malting	40 45	Petersburg	42 46
Distilling	38 32	Riga and Archangel	—
Malt (pale)	64 68	Polish Odessa	42 44
Beans, maragan	32 46	Marianopol	44 48
Ticks	—	Taganrog	—
Harrow	—	Egyptian	31 36
Pigeon	—	American (U.S.)	46 48
Peas, White	38 42	Barley, Pomeranian	32 41
Grey	38 40	Konigsberg	—
Maple	38 40	Danish	23 31
Boilers	—	East Friesland	24 26
Tares (English new)	—	Egyptian	24 26
Foreign	—	Odessa	21 26
Oats (English new)	23 26	Beans—	
Flour, town made, per		Horse	34 38
Sack of 280 lbs	42 48	Pigeon	38 40
Linseed, English	—	Egyptian	34 36
Baltic	46 50	Peas, White	36 38
Black Sea	46 50	Oats—	
Hempseed	30 34	Dutch	18 19
Canaryseed	50 54	Jahde	18 19
Cloverseed, per cwt. of		Danish	16 17
112 lbs. English	76 90	Danish, Yellow feed	19 21
German	—	Swedish	21 24
French	—	Petersburg	20 23
American	—	Flour, per bar. of 198 lbs.	—
Linseed Cake, 12 10s to 13 0s		New York	23 26
Rape Cake, 4 10s to 5 0s per ton		Spanish, per sack	—
Rapeseed, 22 6s to 23 6s per last		Canaryseed, per cwt.	30 35

BREAD.—The prices of wheaten bread, in the metropolis, are from 7d to 7½d; household ditto, 6d to 6½d.

BUTCHERS' MEAT, ISLINGTON, Monday, Jan. 30.

The total imports of foreign stock into London last week amounted to 2,424 head. Our market to-day was scantily supplied with each kind of foreign stock, which sold steadily, at very full prices. Compared with Monday last, the supply of home-fell beasts was very moderate. The attendance of buyers was good, and all breeds of beasts moved off steadily, at very full prices. In some instances, the best Scots and crosses realised 5s per 8lbs. From the eastern districts, we received about 1,600 crosses, Scots, &c.; from the northern districts, 400 shorthorns; from other parts of England, 420 of various breeds; from Scotland, 500 Scots and crosses; and from Ireland, 65 oxen and heifers. The show of sheep was again limited. Nearly all breeds were in good request, at very full prices. The best Downs and half-breeds produced quite 5s 6d per 8lbs., and a good clearance was effected. Calves—the supply of which was only moderate—changed hands steadily, at fully last week's currency. The best veal was worth 5s 10d per 8lbs. On the whole, there was a fair sale for pigs, at late rates.

Per 8lbs. to sink the Offal.		s. d. s. d.	
Inf. coarse beasts	3 4 to 3 6	Pr. coarse woolled	4 10 to 5 2
Second quality	3 8 4 2	Prime Southdown	5 4 5 6
Prime large oxen	4 4 4 8	Lge. coarse calves	4 10 5 4
Prime Scots, &c.	4 8 4 10	Prime small	5 6 5 10
Coarse inf. sheep	3 8 4 2	Large hogs	3 6 3 10
Second quality	4 4 4 8	Neatam. porkers	4 2 4 10

Lamb 0s 0d to 0s 0d.
Suckling calves, 10s to 22s. Quarter-old store pigs, 23s to 29s each.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, Jan. 30.

Since our last report, full average supplies of both town and country-killed meat have been on offer. Generally speaking, the demand is in a sluggish state:—

Per 8lbs by the carcass.		s. d. s. d.	
inferior beef	3 6 to 4 10	Small pork	4 4 to 5 0
Middling ditto	3 8 4 4	Inf. mutton	3 2 3 6
Prime large do.	3 6 4 0	Middling ditto	3 8 4 2
Do. small do.	4 2 4 4	Prime ditto	4 4 4 6
Large pork	3 6 4 2	Veal	4 4 5 0

Lamb, 0s 0d to 0s 0d.

POTATOES, BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, Jan. 30.

About average supplies of potatoes continue to reach us coastwise and by railway. On the whole, the trade is firm.

PRODUCE MARKET, MINING-LANE, Jan. 31.

TEA.—A rather large business has been transacted, chiefly in the better qualities of Congou, and prices have been well maintained.

SUGAR.—A limited amount of business has been done, but previous rates are maintained for the superior descriptions. In the refined market, the dealings have been confined to immediate requirements, and prices are a shade flatter.

COFFEE.—There have been very few dealings, and prices remain unaltered.

RICE.—A moderate amount of business has been transacted in the common and inferior qualities, at about former quotations; other descriptions have been neglected.

SALT-PETRE.—The transactions have been limited, owing to several parcels being announced for public sale during the week. Prices, however, remain firm.

PROVISIONS, Monday, Jan. 30.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 663 bales of butter, and 1,627 bales of bacon, and from foreign ports 11,637 casks of butter, and 439 bales of bacon. The transactions in the Irish butter market during the past week were unimportant, the dealers purchasing only as they are in want, and prices remain unchanged.

holders firm. Foreign met a good sale. The bacon market ruled dull till the close of the week, when more business was transacted. The manufacturers are very firm owing to the high prices paying for pigs. Prices range from 56s to 62s landed, according to weights, quality, &c.

COALS, Monday, Jan. 30.—The market realised last rates, with a steady demand. Hetton's, 20s 6d; Lambton's, 20s; Swindon, 19s 9d; Kelloe, 19s 9d; South Hartlepool, 19s 8d; Wylam, 16s; Hartley's, 15s; Tanfield, 13s 9d. Fresh arrivals, 93; left from last day, 9.

COVENT GARDEN, Saturday, Jan. 28.—Pine-apples and grapes still maintain former prices. Some good apples and pears, though dear, may be had. Oranges are both plentiful and cheap. Good coals are realising from 1s to 1s 6d per lb. Chestnuts are very plentiful. Asparagus, sea-kale, cabbages, carrots, parsnips, and leeks, are sufficient for the demand. Parsley has been very scarce and dear, but it is now somewhat cheaper. Cornish brocoli begins to make its appearance by the crates. Best samples of potatoes realise 4s 6d per bushel. Mushrooms can be had in small quantities. Cucumbers are very dear. Cut flowers chiefly consist of Orchids, Gardenias, Violets, Mignonette, Camellias, Heaths, and Roses.

FLAX, HEMP, COIR, &c., Saturday, Jan. 28.—Most descriptions of flax have changed hands slowly on former terms. Russian hemp is steady at 28½ to 29½ per ton for Peterburg clean. In Manilla parcels very little is doing. Low to fine Jute is worth 11½ to 12½ per ton. Coir goods maintain their previous value.

HOPS, Monday, Jan. 30.—Our market during the past week has remained steady, fine samples fully maintaining recent quotations. There is more inquiry for brown Mid Kents, of which considerable sales have been effected, at full value.

OILS, Monday, Jan. 30.—Lined oil is in fair request at 27s 6d per cwt. on the spot. Fine palm is selling at 43s; coconut, 36s to 45s; rape, 34s 6d to 38s. Olive is rather dearer. Gallipoli has sold at 57½ to 58½. Cod is firm, at 32½ to 33½. Most other oils continue firm in price. Spirits of turpentine, 35s to 36s per cwt.

SEEDS, Monday, Jan. 30.—The demand for seeds continues moderate, and since Monday last the trade has ruled quiet. This morning there were more samples of English red clover-seed offering, but, with very few exceptions, they were all of middling quality, and not suited to the present demand, which is limited to choice qualities. White seed sells readily, at a further advance of 3s to 4s. Trefoil remains steady. Canary-seed, with good demand, was 1s to 1s 2d during this morning.

WOOL, Monday, Jan. 30.—Since our last report, there has been a fair demand for both long and short wools, at full quotations, at which there are somewhat ready sellers. The stock on hand is only moderate for the time of year. For export to the continent, very little business has been transacted.

TALLOW, Monday, Jan. 30.—Our market continues firm, and compared with Monday last prices show an upward tendency. To-day, P.Y.C. on the spot is quoted at 59s per cwt. Rough fat is 3s 2½d per 8 lbs.

PARTICULARS.

	1856.	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.
Stock	Casks. 23667	Casks. 11729	Casks. 22994	Casks. 24509	Casks. 33519
	58s 0d 63s 6d	53s 6d 53s 6d	53s 6d 53s 6d	50s 0d 50s 0d	
Price of Yellow Candle	to to	to to	to to	to to	to to
	0s 0d 0s 0d	0s 0d 0s 0d	0s 0d 0s 0d	0s 0d 0s 0d	0s 0d
Delivery last Week	634	1757	2520	2296	1831
Ditto from the 1st of June	82193	85024	78113	75656	58089
Arrived last Week	2909	1347	325	190	85
Ditto from the 1st of June	59038	70773	83993	83598	85527
Price of Town Tallow	51s 0d 61s 0d	55s 9d 55s 9d	55s 0d 51s 0d		

Advertisements.

PIESSE and LUBIN'S SWEET SCENTS.—

"The kisses of a thousand flowers,
Stolen from them while they sleep."
2, NEW BOND-STREET, LONDON.

RIMMEL'S LOTION for the SKIN is

prepared of two sorts—No. 1, preservative, and No. 2, curative. No. 1 beautifies the complexion. No. 2 removes pimples, eruptions, tan, freckles, sunburns, and all cutaneous imperfections. Price per bottle, 2s. 9d.; ½ pint, 4s. 6d.; pint, 8s. 6d. Sold by all perfumers and chemists.

E. Rimmel, 96, Strand; 24, Cornhill; and Crystal Palace.

TEETH WITHOUT SPRINGS.

BY HER MAJESTY'S ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.

Improper mastication and the evils attendant thereon may be avoided by wearing Artificial Teeth properly constructed and of pure materials.

Messrs. GABRIEL, the old-established Dentists' Treatise on the Loss and best means of Restoring the Teeth, explains their system of supplying Artificial Masticators with Valonised Gum-coloured India-rubber as a base; no metal whatsoever is used—springs and wires are entirely dispensed with, while a greatly increased amount of suction is obtained, together with the best materials and first-class workmanship, at less than half the ordinary cost.

"Gabriel's Treatise is of importance to all requiring the dentist's aid, and emanating from such a source, it may be confidently relied on."—United Service Gazette.

"Thousands requiring artificial teeth are deterred from consulting a dentist, fearing the anticipated cost, or dread of failure—to all such we say peruse 'Gabriel's Treatise.'"—Civil Service Gazette.

Published by Messrs. Gabriel (gratis on application, or sent on receipt of three postage stamps), at their Establishments—33, Ludgate-hill, and 110, Regent-street, London (observe name and numbers particularly); and 734, Duke-street, Liverpool.

BY HER MAJESTY'S ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.

NEWLY-INVENTED APPLICATION of PREPARED INDIA-RUBBER in the construction of Artificial Teeth, Gums, and Palates.

MR. EPHRAIM MOSELY, SURGEON-DENTIST.

9, LOWER GROSVENOR-STREET, GROSVENOR-SQUARE, SOLE INVENTOR AND PATENTEE.

A new, original, and invaluable invention, consisting in the adaptation, with the most absolute perfection and success, of

CHEMICALLY-PREPARED INDIA-RUBBER,

in lieu of the gold or bone frame. The extraordinary results of this application may be briefly noted in a few of their most prominent features:—

All sharp edges are avoided; no spring wires, or fastenings are required; a greatly-increased freedom of action is supplied; a natural elasticity hitherto wholly unobtainable; and a fit, perfected with the most unerring accuracy, are secured, while, from the softness and flexibility of the agents employed, the greatest support is given to the adjoining teeth when loose or rendered tender by the absorption of the gums.

The acids of the mouth exert no agency on the chemically-prepared India-rubber, and, as it is a non-conductor, fluids of any temperature may be retained in the mouth, all unpleasantness of smell and taste being at the same time wholly provided against by the peculiar nature of its preparation.

Teeth filled with gold, and Mr. Ephraim Mosely's Enamel Cement, the only stopping that will not become discoloured, particularly recommended for front teeth.

9, GROSVENOR-STREET (W.) LONDON;
14, GAY-STREET, BATH; and
10, ELDON-SQUARE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

DENMAN.

INTRODUCER of the SOUTH AFRICAN PORT, SHERRY, &c. Finest importations, 30s. per dozen, BOTTLES INCLUDED, an advantage greatly appreciated by the public and a constantly increasing connexion, saving the great annoyance of returning them.

Two Pint Samples for Twenty-four Stamps.
WINE in CASK forwarded free to any Railway Station in England.

EXCELSIOR BRANDY.

Pale or Brown, 15s. per gallon, or 30s. per dozen.
TERMS—CASH.
Country Orders must contain a remittance. Crossed cheques Bank of London. Price-lists forwarded on application.
JAMES L. DENMAN, 45, Fenchurch-street (corner of Railway-place), London.

IMPROVEMENTS IN HEATING, &c.

MUSGRAVE'S PATENT SLOW-COMBUSTION STOVE
For Warming Public Buildings, Halls, Shops, Conservatories, Factories, Drying Rooms, &c. Will burn in Churches from Saturday till Sunday evening, avoiding attention during the hours of worship. In Halls, will burn day and night for weeks, with little care. Capable of warming a large apartment for 24 hours, at a cost of 3d.; and deserving of special attention, because of its safety, healthfulness, durability, and extreme simplicity. This Stove is the nearest approach to warming by hot water.

MUSGRAVE'S PATENT STABLE-FITTINGS AND HARMLESS LOOSE BOXES
Have obtained the award of a large Council Medal from the R. I. A. Society for the following improvements:—1st, The Horse cannot injure himself or others in the same stable if he breaks loose in his stall. 2nd, He cannot waste the hay. 3rd, He can have cut or uncut hay at pleasure. 4th, He has clean water always before him. 5th, A pure and wholesome atmosphere is secured. 6th, The whole fittings are stronger than usual, without increase in price, and there is no risk of infection.

The Loose Box is really what its name denotes, and the most spirited Horse may be turned into it without danger.

MUSGRAVE'S PATENT IRON COW HOUSE FITTINGS.

As approved by the Board of Works, adopted in the Ulster Model Farm, and by many of the most eminent Stock Breeders in the Kingdom, are made wholly of iron, very durable, cleanly, and attractive in appearance. The fodder is always fresh, being freely exposed to the air, removed from the breath of the animal, and separated from the roots or damp food. The range of Troughs can be quickly filled with water for the use of the Cows, or for washing out in case of epidemic, and the cost is very moderate.

These inventions being distinguished for strength, simplicity, and practical usefulness, will repay public inquiry.

MUSGRAVE BROTHERS are also makers of Wire Fencing, Hurdles, Field and Entrance Gates, Corn Rick Stands, Conservatories, Hot-water Apparatus, Verandahs, Rural Bridges, &c.; and their works being favourably placed for cheap labour and materials, they can offer corresponding advantages in price.

MUSGRAVE'S PATENT FIELD GATES have gained the 1st Prize from the R. I. A. Society for strength, durability, and cheapness.

For particulars, address MUSGRAVE BROTHERS, Ann-street Iron Works, Belfast.

CLOSED UPPERS.—Price List (free by post) on application to N. H. DEED, West Central Leather and Shoe Mercery Warehouse, 41 and 42, High-street, St. Giles's, London, W.C.

DR. DE JONGH'S

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